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Organization:

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Comments: Passing this legislation would be working against you instead of for you. First of all, it makes no sense to chop bolts that are already existing. This alone is very wasteful and doesn't do a better job at preserving the rock since the damage is already done with putting the hardware in. Having the bolts allow for safe exploration of these mystically beautiful areas that I have been lucky enough to spend most of my life in due to my love for climbing. People will always want to explore and see these places, why not keep it open to climbers too? Especially if we can do it safely and have people check the bolts and have wonderful groups, like the access fund supply bolts for climbers to rebolt and keep the climbing areas safe and maintained. Secondly, the average climber typically does more for that area than any other tourist coming through besides the park ranger and forest service themselves and even then, I believe there is a debate. I personally have worked with the forest service to help maintain these places for FREE. Free land maintenance and education is very common from most climbers. Most are educated and realize that we are allowed to be here as long as we do the right thing. This, along with our love for nature, keeps us on our best behavior; picking up after others, cleaning trails, educating people about the importance of staying on trail and being quiet, keeping invasive species out of the camp spots and climbing spots-which coincidentally are hiking trails for other tourists most of the time. As climbers, we spend time in these areas and know them like the back of our hand. Some live close and go often to one spot and others live out of their cars to travel to all of these amazing places to climb and often repeat that on a cycle. That allows us to know the land and the community. Who do you think cares for the land more? Someone who comes here once for vacation or someone who spends lots of time at these places each year, really dialing in, reviewing the scenery, projecting and sitting with the rocks and getting to know all the nature in that area. I would really appreciate your consideration for stopping this legislation for being passed due to my reasons above. Even if that means, having more safety precautions and getting bolts replaced more regularly, or even in certain instances where we realize there is more history here than we thought, we can section off certain areas and not put any more routes there but still be able to bolt the surrounding area. a great example is Indian Creek. It is a spiritual experience being able to climb a perfect splitter while also being next to native american artifacts. I've grown so much respect and have really learned about a lot of the people who lived on this land before I was here due to being able to safely and sustainably explore these areas.