



## **Memorandum in Support**

**Bill:** S1429 by Senator Ritchie  
A650 by Assembly member Gunther

**Title:** An act to amend the general obligations law, in relation to the liability of landowners who permit recreational uses

### **The Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) Strongly Supports this Legislation.**

This bill would enhance the availability of recreational activities on undeveloped lands by clarifying the provisions of the General Obligations Law (GOL) relating to landowner liability for providing public access for recreational activities.

This bill seeks to encourage the owners of land and water areas to permit their use for recreational activities. One of the concerns for landowners is that the list in GOL § 9-103 does not include all recreational activities for which a landowner may make their land available to the public. This bill would address this incongruity by including all recreational activities in GOL § 9-103. In addition, this bill would clarify that property owners would be protected if they allow individuals to pass over their land in order to participate in a recreational activity.

ADK is comprised of 30,000 hikers, paddlers, skiers, backpackers and outdoor enthusiasts. This legislation could open a significant amount of land to recreational use and connect previously unconnected pieces of land via trails. Due to the large potential increase in outdoor recreation opportunity the ADK strongly supports the legislation.

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