

House Committee on Rules

Chair Val Hoyle and Members of the committee,

I'm Bob Sowdon, an analyst for the Oregon Citizens Lobby.

Please include my testimony for public record.

The Oregonian Constitution clearly states:

Article XV: Section 5a. Policy regarding marriage. It is the policy of Oregon, and its political subdivisions, that only a marriage between one man and one woman shall be valid or legally recognized as a marriage.

When the Federal Judge in 2014 ruled that the Oregon's 2004 state constitutional amendment banning such marriages discriminated on the basis of sexual orientation in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the federal constitution. This action did not amend the Constitution.

Therefore making these changes to existing law is un-constitutional.

With HB3231 It takes a Man to father a child by a Woman, by implying that by changing a [Man] to person, removes the biological parentage. The birth record needs to provide that information.

I request that these two bills be allowed to die in committee.

Thank you,

Bob Sowdon
Cottage Grove