

Date: April 24, 2023  
To: The Senate Committee on Rules  
From: Erin Palmer/ Business Owner  
RE: Support SJR 33

Members of the Committee,

My name is Erin Palmer, I have owned a wine shop and wine education business in Oregon for the past two decades. I have also been a community educator through Portland Community College for nearly 20 years. Through my business I have had the pleasure of working with a wide cross-section of Oregonians and have also had the joy of employing dozens of people with varied life experiences. I pay taxes in Washington County, to the State of Oregon, and federal taxes. I am writing to express **support for Senate Joint Resolution 33.**

It is important that Senate Joint Resolution 33 is approved in order to express to our children, our friends, our neighbors, our customers, and prospective Oregonian's that they are safe and valued in Oregon. When we make our communities safer we attract a greater diversity of people into our neighborhoods and businesses. One of the best ways to attract people to Oregon is to promise them that they will be treated with dignity, with trust that they are able to make the health care decisions that are right for them, and that they are safe to express themselves without fear. This offering of safety must include protecting access to reproductive care, gender affirming care, and codifying the right to same gender marriage.

Basic human rights are all we are seeking. Not more. Not less.

Unfortunately, we have seen that the Supreme Court cannot be trusted to uphold the constitutional protections we are due. And our fundamental freedoms are at risk on a local and national level. We must do better. We must lead by example. Oregon has the chance to show the rest of the nation that caring for one another is the morally and the fiscally responsible thing to do. There is only upside to including everyone in the ideals of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

SJR 33 is a critical move to keep Oregon as a safe and welcoming place for all. We want to be able to make personal decisions on a personal level. We should be free of government interference in our relationships and our health care decisions. In order to do that we need access to individualized healthcare, including abortion access, birth control access, and access to gender affirming care. We also must protect the rights for people to live a life of love and joy with anyone of their choosing, through protected

rights for marriage for all. These protections must also prohibit discrimination from housing, employment, and access to government services.

Oregonians vote for these fundamental rights over and over. Oregonians have a right to have their voices heard and votes given the weight they are entitled to. We want a safe, joyful, welcoming, diverse community. We want you to listen to us.

With respect and optimism I submit this letter.

Kindest regards,  
Erin Palmer