

Testimony in Support of SJR 33

April, 25 2023

Liza Dadoly, Lucia Mcardle, Khadija Davis, Jessica Mole Heilman, Leya Descombes, Vicki Reitenauer, Madeleine Garcia

Date: April 25, 2023

To: Senate Rules Committee

From: Liza Dadoly, Leya Descombes, Khadija Davis, Jessica Mole Heilman, Rae Tekie, Lucia McArdle, Vicki Reitenauer, Madeleine Garcia

RE: Support SJR 33

Members of the Committee,

Our names are Liza Dadoly, Leya Descombes, Khadija Davis, Jessica Mole Heilman, Rae Tekie, Lucia McArdle, Vicki Reitenauer, and Madeleine Garcia. We are writing to express **support for Senate Joint Resolution 33**. Nationally, we're seeing a rollback of rights and protections on reproductive rights, climate, gun safety, Indigenous sovereignty, gender-affirming public health, and more.

All of this is happening at a time of rising patriarchal white nationalism. Across the country, much of the momentum generated by the #MeToo movement, George Floyd's murder, and the racialized and gendered impacts of the pandemic have faded. Every day we are experiencing unprecedented attacks on the trans community, the wider queer community, and reproductive rights. These are also attacks on safety, quality of life, and healthcare outcomes for trans and queer communities, women, and gender expansive people.

We recognize that these attacks cause additional harm to communities with intersecting marginalized identities --like gender, race, class, ability, and more. These communities are constantly living in a state of survival.

Queer and trans communities, as well as other marginalized communities, have been strategically pressured to assimilate to the oppressive structures of dominant culture. Telling people their existence is wrong is a means of erasure. Getting to live as your most authentic self is a basic right that everyone deserves. This is oppression of basic needs and support that is provided to the dominant culture, but not for those who don't meet the 'norm'.

Let's continue taking action together, move forward in solidarity, and advance gender justice for all. Gender affirming care is lifesaving care. Reproductive care is lifesaving care.

We urge you to pass SJR 33. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Liza Dadoly, Leya Descombes, Khadija Davis, Jessica Mole Heilman, Rae Tekie, Lucia McArdle, Vicki Reitenauer, and Madeleine Garcia