

Submitter: Emma Mcilroy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SJR33

4/26/2023

Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Knopp & Members of the Committee, my name is Emma McIlroy and I'm the CEO and Founder of Wildfang, an Oregon-based clothing company. I'm writing to express my support for Senate Joint Resolution 33.

As the owner of a nationally renowned small business and employer of dozens of Oregonians, I recognize the importance of everyone in the state living a life free from discrimination. One doesn't have to look far to see that the LGBTQ+ community, particularly transgender and nonbinary people, are under attack across the country with more than 425 bills introduced this year alone to legislate away our rights.

SJR 33 will enshrine core values in the Oregon constitution and ensure that we can make deeply personal decisions free from government interference, including the right to abortion, contraception, and same-gender marriage.

I'm a proud feminist, queer woman, and Irish immigrant who came up in the business world in Oregon when I began working for Nike in 2007. I chose Oregon because I knew I would be safe here – that I could work, learn and love without fear of being discriminated against simply because of who I am. I chose Oregon to start my business because I've seen the strength of the workforce here and the protections offered by the State. I want to make sure that we continue to make Oregon a diverse and inclusive state with a thriving economy based on these same values - and I believe that SJR33 will do just that.

Thank you,

Emma Mcilroy (she/her)
CEO, Wildfang