

Submitter: Anne Henry

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HJR3

I subscribe to the notion that it is critical to democracy to increase citizen access to the matter of choice. Access to voting on issues is the most obvious way for Oregonians to make their choices on issues clear. The current efforts for taking control of or eliminating the Democratic process that has represented the people of the United States shows a shameful disregard for the voting rights that virtually all of us alive today who have grown up with and have been proud of our country for exemplifying the trust in America's citizenry. Today however, Republicans and some powerful wealthy people have taken it upon themselves to take control of more and more of the government in order to benefit the rich, big corporations and mostly white American men in the process. This bill is another effort to limit the power of the voters by creating demands that sponsors know will make it difficult to achieve in any future attempts to put initiatives on the ballots.

The legislature for the State of Oregon needs to put into place guardrails that will keep Democracy thriving in our state, laws that will allow Oregonians to keep living up to the standards that we were taught to respect and admire. Today we see corrupt behavior in Washington DC and sadly we see it bleeding into our local and State government. To me this all looks like people are turning their backs on and betraying oaths to the Constitution and to the best interests of ALL the people. People are watching and see what is happening. We are growing more and more unhappy with what we are seeing in the leadership trying to take the power into their own hands. This is not the American way. You are poking us and there will be a strong reaction. Some of you must already be seeing the stirrings of anger. I see it in everyone I speak to and in the signs and demonstrations that are just beginning to pick up steam. People who have never demonstrated before, made phone calls before or written letters before are doing it. The dissatisfaction is growing as it should when some try to dominate, and take from others. I strongly urge you to vote against the move to take the people's power away. Ultimately we will not stand for it.