

Submitter: Craig Rusch

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR28

We moved to Oregon over 25 years ago in large part due to the incredible, breathtaking outdoor opportunities. We hike and camp almost every weekend in the summer in the mountains, by the beach, around town, etc. For the first 20 years, we could go almost anywhere we wanted at any time of the year. While there were fires, the always seemed to be somewhere else.

Now, we have to check the fire forecast as often as we check the weather forecast. Before we understood this new normal we had gotten turned around on numerous occasions due to closed trails, smoke and fire. It hadn't dawned on us that our pristine destinations like Eden Park or the Siouxon River would be shrouded in thick blankets of lung busting smoke.

The beauty and pureness that called us to Oregon from the east coast are under threat. And it's not like we can just wait for the forests to regrow. Once they are gone, they are gone for generations.

Please help us secure our right to a safe and clean environment by passing this bill.