

Submitter: Victoria Coats

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR28

According to research by the Potential Energy Coalition, "Across every country, love for the next generation was the dominant reason for action on climate change." We need to remember this is why we need this amendment. Older generations may squeak by and escape the worst impacts of the climate crisis, but our children and grandchildren will not. Our children know this and are already being harmed. A recent study of 15,000 youth and young adults found that 85% are moderately worried and 60% are extremely worried about climate change and its impact on the planet. Over 40% said climate change is affecting their mental health. An Oregon Health Authority report, "Climate Change & Youth Mental Health" found youth in Oregon are experiencing "feelings of hopelessness, despair, anxiety and frustration about climate change." They feel "dismissed by adults and the older generation" and they "feel angry that not enough is being done to protect their future." Meaningful action at the state level is even more important now that federal leadership has abandoned environmental regulation and is intent on accelerating climate destruction. Please support this amendment out of love for your children and grandchildren.