

Submitter: Dara Crockett  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR28

Dear Senate Committee on Rules

Re: My Support for SJR 28-1 – Oregon’s Right to a Healthy Environment

We live and work in a State that has always served as a role model (almost to the point of caricature) to the rest of the country as one that celebrates and protects the natural environment. Most of us who live and work here do so because we believe in continuing to protect our rights to clean air, water and soil, and we acknowledge their contributions to our mental and physical health. We care about passing these on to our future generations, as well. We are willing to make sacrifices in order to retain this lifestyle.

SJR 28 updates Oregon’s constitution so that we can continue to protect ourselves from toxic pollutants directly or inadvertently caused by humans and that are even more threatening today due to climate change. Passing SJR28-1 will give agencies and their lawyers the power to proactively address threats to our health and safety rather than the current system which forces us to have to take time waiting for public outcry. The current policy is not effective and puts us in harm’s way as threats to our health and safety confront us on a recurring basis.

Federal laws are currently under threat by the current administration, and we cannot rely on them to protect our precious and fragile State or its citizens, up to and including its standard-bearing reputation. It is far less costly to stand up for ourselves and to be pro-active, preventing environmental harm before it happens than to try to go back and clean up the damage afterwards. SJR 28-1 will be a win-win for all of us, in all sectors of the beautiful State of Oregon.

Thank you for considering my input,  
Dara Crockett