

17 March 2021

To: Senate Committee on Rules

Re: Senate Joint Resolution 3

Dear Chair Senator Wagner, Vice-Chair Senator Girod, and members of the Committee:

It is not possible that I could be more opposed to SJR 3. It is beyond me to imagine the effort required in addition to the expenses incurred to tax payers of conducting a vote to amend our state constitution. And to what purpose? So the current majority party holders can have their own way? That is precisely what this bill appears to be.

The (un-named) sponsors of this bill would do well to keep in mind that walk-outs by members of the Oregon legislature has been practiced by both political parties. Yet our system apparently is still able to craft and pass hundreds if not thousands of bills per session. Overkill to be sure.

It would appear to be obvious to most that this bill is not concerned with anyone missing a legislative session but merely with only *why* a session was missed. Whether it should or not be *deemed to be engaging in disorderly behavior*. And who shall be the judge of that?

Do legislators of both parties band together to boycott floor sessions? Never. It is one party denying the other party a quorum. And often for good reasons.

Is there one political party that is always correct? Always right in their judgment? Hardly. This bill is the opposite of compromise and will foster discord, not cooperation, between parties. But perhaps that is the intent of the sponsor(s).

This bill simply raises childish, juvenile behavior to the level of full grown, rational adults, whom one would assume, actually have some experience in how the world is run. In the real world, an *unexcused absence* is only such—until it is *deemed* otherwise—by those in power.

Upon first viewing, this proposal might hold some water. But given more consideration this is a meaningless bill and a waste of the legislature's time. Simply a bone tossed to the majority party's supporters.

Although no "sponsor(s)" are given it is obvious this bill is merely a "get even" tactic being attempted by members of the [current] majority political party.

If this bill is passed out of committee it will merely show voters that retribution is the aim of the un-named sponsors of this bill and those that support it.

Again I urge you to table Senate Joint Resolution 3 and use your time more wisely.

Sincerely,



Richard Wisner