

I write in support of SCR 17. I am a climate activist and firmly believe we need change from each of us and at the state level. This resolution recognizes that the lack of services and disproportionate exposure to environmental hazards faced by many communities in Oregon is a product of exclusion from and unequal access to decision-making processes.

SCR 17 would help align the equity goals throughout the legislative and administrative branches of government, to build a just, equitable, and resilient future for all Oregonians.

Events such as the September 2020 wildfires disproportionately impacted historically disadvantaged and underrepresented communities in many rural areas of our state. In recognition of climate trends such as fire, flood and energy system overloads, SCR 17 draws our attention to the need to repair communities to “build back better,” and states that Oregon will “address environmental pollution on the basis of the right of all people to clean air, safe and affordable drinking water and protection from climate hazards and the sustainable preservation of ecological integrity.”

Thank you for supporting this bill.
Susan Palmiter