

Date: April 24, 2023
To: Senate Committee on Rules
From: Brian Hudgins
RE: Support SJR 33

Members of the Committee,

My name is Brian Hudgins and I am writing to express **support for Senate Joint Resolution 33**

Regardless party affiliation, we are all human beings. We all deserve the freedom to pursue happiness and security.

This is a right that must be preserved for every single person regardless how they identify in any aspect of their life.

There has been a trend towards authoritarian rule the past 50 years or so. You can't deny it, it is real. This change in our culture and politics has been gaining speed recently and it's not just here in America that this is happening. This is a worldwide phenomenon and it should scare all of you as much as it does me.

One earmark of authoritarian rule is the designation of others, those different from the rest, as a danger to society. Allowing a citizen to be denied any common right because one faction deem them as different is an affront to what I see as a core value of being an American. Not just an affront though, but also an invitation to those that would see an authoritarian government replace the democratic republic we are founded on.

I believe every single person must be left free and unhindered in their desire to love who they will. To penalize someone, in any fashion, because of who they love or how they identify as a human being is a horrible disregard of what should be the most basic of human rights.

I am a registered Democrat. A liberal Democrat.

A liberal Democrat who also owns firearms.

As a gun owner, I am aware of the attacks we are seeing from all directions, all factions, against many of the most basic of our Constitutional Rights.

Pass SJR 33. Put it before the people of Oregon.

Allow us to refine our Constitution for the love of all.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Brian Hudgins