

ROGUE ACTION CENTER

April 25th, 2023

To: Members of the Committee

From: Dana Greenblatt, Rogue Action Center

RE: Support for SJR 33

Members of the Committee,

I am a policy advocate and organizer at the Rogue Action Center (RAC) and am writing to express **support for Senate Joint Resolution 33, which will help create a future in which Oregonians have the right to make their own decisions about reproductive health and gender-related healthcare and are legally protected from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.**

With the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, we've seen states across the nation take steps to ban and restrict access to gender-affirming care and reproductive care. People in Oregon are already feeling the impact of the rapidly changing healthcare landscape. **Three quarters of Oregon counties do not have an abortion provider. Nearly three quarters of transgender Oregonians do not live near a provider who has openings within a month to receive services.**

Lawmakers who are championing these restrictive policies have threatened to extend this same logic to restrict other fundamental freedoms such as same sex marriage and legal protection against discrimination based on gender identity. **We can no longer count on the Supreme Court to uphold our long-held constitutional protections. State Legislators must step up and take proactive measures to protect Oregonians and preserve our basic rights by voting in support of SJR 33.**

SJR 33 will enshrine our core values in the Oregon constitution and ensure that we can make deeply personal decisions free from government interference, including the right to abortion, contraception, and same-gender marriage. Our state constitution will be clear that:

- Oregonians have the freedom to **make our own healthcare decisions and the right to access the essential care we need including family planning, contraceptives, and abortion.**
- People can marry who we love, **removing Oregon's ban on same-gender marriage** that was inserted into our constitution nearly two decades ago.
- **Every Oregonian, regardless of sex, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation, is afforded the same protections to live a life free of government actions that discriminate** — from housing and employment to public accommodation to state services.

Oregonians overwhelmingly support our fundamental freedom to control our own bodies, lives, and futures without government interference. **Organizations and individuals across the state continue to fight for these basic rights and move towards a more just and equitable Oregon. We are asking legislators to uplift this work and firmly support SJR 33 this session.** Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Dana Greenblatt

Rogue Action Center