

Submitter: Thomas Wrisley
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SJR33

PLEASE SUPPORT SJR 33

I am writing to testify in support of Senate Joint Resolution 33, and its importance in upholding the rights of women and LGBTQ people in Oregon as our inherent liberty and dignity is called into question in halls of government across the nation.

I have lived in Oregon my entire life. In many ways, my community and I have grown together, particularly in a society where our expectations on the basis of gender have evolved profoundly over the course of a handful of generations. Despite these changes, one thing that has remained is Oregon values, particularly our commitment to being a national leader in equal rights and social justice; the thing that makes me most proud to call myself an Oregonian.

As we navigate this change, it is important that we protect the rights of LGBTQ people to explore this aspect of themselves without fear of hostility, which is where SJR 33 comes in.

SJR 33 would codify this principle into our state's most important governing document, solidifying Oregon values of equal rights and social justice into our constitution.

SJR 33 would alter our constitution to ensure that the law will never be used as a weapon to undermine the equal treatment that women and LGBTQ people everywhere are entitled to.

Equally important in this resolution is the protection that it extends to reproductive healthcare. By affirming the right of women to access a full range of reproductive health services, Oregon also affirms its commitment to the right of women to determine the course of their lives.

Members of the committee, I urge your support for this amendment, and I urge the support of the full Senate as we strive to build a kinder, more just Oregon for each of us, forever.