

Subject: Testimony Regarding HJR 11 Proposed amendment relating to initiative measure

To the Honorable Members of the House Committee on Rules, Oregon State Legislature:

My name is Gabrielle Molinari Homer, and I work in the cattle and beef industries, and am involved in community banking. I reside in Fossil, Oregon, the county seat of Wheeler County. Wheeler County is the least populated county in the State of Oregon, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be able to have input on and offer support for this important measure from here on the frontier.

As a lifelong Oregonian that has lived and worked in some of its largest cities as well as very remote communities, I am passionate about issues facing both rural and urban areas. I feel that spending our time concerned about issues that are only relevant to small special interest groups wastes our valuable resources and detracts from our ability to work together on more important, broader issues that have statewide impact. If an issue has merit, then requiring 8-10% percent of voter support prior to expenditure of time and energy to advance the issue shouldn't present a barrier, it should present an opportunity. It should allow measures to only advance that have been properly vetted by the constituency and received adequate support to move forward. Spending valuable time and resources debating issues should be limited to those that can show a fairly distributed and significant amount of support.

I urge the committee to consider the importance of utilizing the initiative process in the State of Oregon, as worthy of issues of substance and merit. Therefore, I offer my support for this Resolution.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Homer

Oregon CattleWomen Association President-Elect

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