

March 10th, 2025

TO: House Committee on Rules FROM: Oregon League of Conservation Voters SUBJECT: Oppose HJR 11

Dear Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Pahm and Drazan, and members of the committee,

My name is Britney VanCitters and I'm the Political & Organizing Director at the Oregon League of Conservation Voters (OLCV). OLCV is in strong opposition to HJR 11.

This proposed amendment to our state's constitution is a threat to access to direct democracy in Oregon. Oregon is one of 15 states where everyday citizens have the right to run a petition to get statutory or constitutional amendments, and veto referendums on the ballot for a direct vote of the people. Access to direct democracy has been the Oregon way since 1902.

Increasing the threshold amount of signatures in addition to requiring an equal number of qualified petition signatures in every Oregon congressional district would mean that only the ultra-wealthy would be able to run initiative campaigns. The changes proposed in HJR 11 would make requirements for citizen initiatives so unachievable that it would effectively serve as a ban on initiative petitions. OLCV urges the Committee to vote NO on HJR 11.

Thank you,

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