

Members of the Senate Committee On Rules,

I strongly support SJR 28.

I moved to Oregon with my partner in late 2020 with high hopes for more environmental protections than where I had moved from, only to find out – it isn't so. Shocking to find out that Oregon's incredible beauty and vast natural resources are there for the taking by the "big industrial complexes" while the citizens have no choice but to absorb the cost of polluted air, water and soil.

I moved from Colorado where the people's voices were squashed by large industrial complex industries - namely the oil and gas industry (fracking). Fracking is incredibly harmful to the environment and to the people that live nearby and downwind. There is an entire compendium written by the Physicians for Social Responsibility on the multitude of harms caused by this particular industry. .

For example, in 2012, the people of the City of Longmont, Colorado voted 60 percent to ban fracking within the city limits. We were overjoyed by the turnout. However, a few years later, our vote was nullified by the Colorado Supreme Court, which overturned our fracking ban. I was shocked to learn that in the State of Colorado, profits matter more than people's health, safety and welfare. Is it the same in Oregon? It appears to be.

In Oregon, I see a state where that is being run by different types of large industries - namely, Big Ag (grass seed - horribly polluting), and Big Timber (just clear cut 'em - they'll grow again - never mind spraying the area with toxic chemicals which ends up in the watershed, and loss of habitat for wild/native animal populations). It's shocking to see so many of the waterways polluted with agricultural waste and who knows what else!

I want to live in a place where my right to a healthy environment is assured and can't be taken away by industries that pollute while making the people pay for their pollution! Shouldn't it be the other way around? Put the protections where they do the most good.

Protecting our communities should be our government's highest priority. The system that has been set up is backwards: it protects the large industries while making the people pay to protect themselves from harm.

With our climate tipping faster and faster toward catastrophe (Hot House Earth), we are in real danger of a global extinction event. Once our precious planet is bespoiled by

countless industries in the name of profit, there's no going back. Furthermore, the increasingly dire wildfire threat from a warming planet is a huge threat to us all!

Our very lives depend upon this bill! Let's be proactive and forward thinking! There are other states that have this very same language in their constitution (Montana, for example).

I wholeheartedly support SJR28! Let's make it so!