

Submitter: kim d
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR28

I am writing to express my strong support for SJR-1 . We all depend on a safe and healthy environment. This amendment puts this key value, that all Oregonians hold, into our State constitution. If passed by the voters, the State government will be required to do a better job to prevent environmental threats to the health and well being of current and future Oregonians. Our current legal system waits to address environmental threats until public pressure forces the Legislature to act. Preventing environmental disasters is much less costly, in both dollars and public health, than cleaning up after disasters.

As a grandmother of two born to a family of asthma sufferers, there is nothing more important to our family than to clearly establish a basic right to clean air. We hope one day to see Oregon's staggering population of asthma sufferers (data from 2022 reveals that 11.5% of Oregon adults and 6.9% of our children suffer from asthma!) experience improved health, longevity and decreased health care costs!

There is no such thing as a right to pollute, especially if it negatively affects your neighbors or the interests of others. The Right to a Healthy Environment will help protect our use, enjoyment and value of our private and public properties while protecting against the harmful activities of others.

For the benefit of all current Oregon residents and for the benefit of our future generations, please pass this common sense bill to protect Oregon from continued and future harms.