

TO: Senate Committee On Rules
RE: Support of SJR 28
DATE: 3 March 2025

Dear Chair Jama, Vice Chair Bonham, and members of the committee,

My name is Kyrsten Smith and I am writing to you in support of Senate Joint Resolution 28, which ensures that Oregonians have the right to a clean, safe, and healthy environment as stated in the Oregon Constitution. I am a student at Willamette University, and have spent a large amount of my time there learning about how people can work to protect the environment.

This amendment is an important step to ensuring that we are protecting the well-being of Oregonians but promoting environmental health. Making environmental health a constitutional priority will help boost the well-being of children and the upcoming generations of Oregonians. Everyone deserves the right to clean air and water, this resolution will give a path to how we can maintain these rights.

There are concerns about the implementation of the resolution. However, investing in our environment now will lead to long-term benefits including lower healthcare costs, community resiliency, and opportunities for clean energy and industries.

I urge the you to support this resolution and help Oregon better our environmental health. With your help, we can make Oregon a leader in environmental justice accountability.

Thank you,

Kyrsten Smith