

Submitter: Randy L Knop

On Behalf of: Union County Progressives

Committee: Senate Committee on Rules

Measure Appointment or Topic: SJR28

To: Rules Committee

From: Randy L Knop

Date: March 24, 2025

Re: Right to a Healthy Environment

Dear Chair Senator Jama, Vice-Chair Senator Bonham and members of the Committee:

I write on behalf of the Union County Progressives to urge your support for SJR 28, the Right to a Healthy Environment. As farmers, ranchers, small business owners, and community members, we know and understand the impacts of climate change on our industries, farms, and people. This bill is as much about protecting our world as it is about Leaders who determine people's rights.

Why this Constitutional Amendment means more than just Clean Air, Water and Environment.

Oregon's founding fathers' dedication to individualism led them to make the Oregon Bill of Rights a centerpiece of the Oregon government. Throughout Oregon's history, despite great hardships, Oregonians settled across the mountains and plains, and farmers migrated to cities, all to find a better life for themselves and their families. Oregon has been shaped by this common quest of individual Americans who became a state that would and continues to lead a nation through its exemplary decisions and actions.

Our Legislative process and members are our state's greatest strength and its greatest weakness. They drive innovation and progress, but they also may consign millions of Oregonians to lives spent under environmental degradation if they choose to ignore the evidence.

We urge you to support SJR 28.

Sincerely,

Randy L Knop