

Submitter:

Amy Schauer

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SJR28

I support amending the Oregon Constitution to establish a right to a healthy environment for all ages. I think it is worth having a conversation about the burden of existing regulations on business, but both businesses and people need a clean, safe, healthy environment to thrive. This amendment would clarify our position on some of our most basic shared values - clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, for our children and grandchildren. I'm encouraged that states like Montana and Pennsylvania have already passed similar constitutional amendments and these have resulted in decisions that support livability for everyone. We can't count on the federal government to protect our state's natural resources, species or ecosystems. We can't leave the safety of the critical natural resources that support our lives and livelihoods subject to changing political administrations and special economic interests. The people of Oregon should have a chance to make a statement in our constitution about our fundamental right to healthy air and water and the natural ecosystems that support us. I ask the legislature to allow this proposed amendment to get to the ballot, so that we may have that chance.