## LISA FRAGALA STATE REPRESENTATIVE HOUSE DISTRICT 8 FROM THE WILLAMETTE RIVER TO SPENCER BUTTE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Chair Jama, Vice Chairs Golden and Bonham, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to encourage your support of passage of Senate Joint Resolution 28, a proposed change to the Oregon Constitution to establish a fundamental right to a clean, safe, and healthy environment. This is a forward-thinking piece of legislation that allows the People of Oregon to create a constitutional direction for the government related to environmental sustainability, similar to the passage of Oregon Measure 111, the Right to Healthcare Amendment.

The Environmental Rights Amendment, SJR 28, strengthens Oregon's current expectations for a healthy environment and, while it doesn't require the Legislature to do anything specifically, it will help to guide and promote good legislation towards the amendment's aims. Several states already have constitutional environmental rights protections, including Pennsylvania, Montana, Hawaii, and New York. There are also many other states which have pending referrals in their legislature.

Everyone needs clean air, clean water, and a stable climate to survive and thrive and I've heard from constituents that they support this opportunity to make their voice heard at the ballot box. By passing SJR 28, the People of Oregon will have the opportunity to make their expectations clear that public health, safety, and environmental sustainability is an important priority and one worth instilling into the Oregon Constitution.

I urge your support of Senate Joint Resolution 28.

Sincerely,

Loa M. Fragala

Representative Lisa Fragala House District 8

