

# Teens sue over climate

Oregon's Judge Aiken didn't dismiss a case involving Oregon teenagers suing the Federal government for not fighting climate change adequately, not protecting their constitutional rights to life, liberty and property, and not protecting public trust resources.

Your article cited experts saying the teens aren't likely to win: "Courts cannot order agencies to issue sweeping regulations," and "there isn't any realistic remedy the courts could impose," and the Supreme Court won't stretch the constitution to include the right to a stable planet.

It's easy to be pessimistic, but the fate of American teenagers is the fate of America. I'm rooting for our teens.

The experts didn't mention -- in May 2016 Massachusetts teenagers won a similar case. Our teenagers sued based on state law: our "Global Warming Solutions Act" established goals and deadlines for cutting emissions. Since we probably won't reach our goals on schedule, our state Supreme Court ordered our Department of Environmental Protection to issue regulations "that address multiple sources or categories of sources of greenhouse gas emissions, impose a limit on emissions that may be released ... and set limits that decline on an annual basis."

Our case had a different legal basis than Oregon's case, but it suggests that courts will order sweeping regulations when justice demands.

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