



The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

April 28, 2025

To: Chair [Senator Lew Frederick](#), Vice Chair [Senator Suzanne Weber](#)

And [Members of the Senate Education Committee](#)

Re: [HB 2586A](#) – Resident Tuition for Asylum Seekers – **Support**

HB 2586A adds asylum seekers to the types of immigrant students eligible for resident (in-state) tuition at Oregon public universities and Oregon Health and Science University. The League of Women Voters believes that immigration policies should be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises. Further, the State General Fund should give high priority to financial aid for students.

Oregon Senate Bill 553 (2021) extended in-state tuition to individuals who have already been granted asylum. Because of court backlogs, asylum seekers typically have to wait years to have their cases heard. Refugees can receive cash, medical assistance, and help finding jobs when they come to Oregon. They should also be eligible for lower, in-state tuition rates.

We urge your Support for HB 2586A.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Bentson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Lisa Bentson
President LWVOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jean W. Pierce". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jean Pierce
Education