



*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.*

**To: Senator [Kayse Jama](#), Chair, [Senate Committee on Housing and Development](#)  
Senator [Dick Anderson](#), Vice-Chair, [Senate Committee on Housing and Development](#)**

**Re: [SB 1530](#)—\$10M for Oregon Individual Development Accounts—Support**

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the federal government shares with other levels of government the responsibility to provide equality of opportunity for education, employment, and housing for all persons regardless of their race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability.

**The League urges your approval of the Individual Development Accounts (IDA) as part of the Senate omnibus housing bill (SB 1530).**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon [joins over 70 businesses, financial institutions, housing providers and organizations](#) calling for funding to maintain current service levels of the statewide IDA program. Combined with tax credit revenue, a \$10 million general fund investment in 2024 will ensure that 2,200 Oregonians can begin saving for their financial goals through an IDA during this biennium.

**Please ensure that funding is for the entire IDA program, without being restricted to only certain savings goals.** The IDA program has a 25-year track record of success precisely because participants define and save toward the investments that are most important for their own circumstances. Options include home purchase – along with home repair, small business start-up or expansion, post-secondary education, vehicle purchase, and emergency savings.

Every IDA, regardless of the savings goal, is a tool for housing stability:

- A home repair IDA can improve habitability and reduce utility costs.
- An IDA used to grow a small business can raise a family's income.
- Saving for college can set a student on the path to graduate without debt, making homeownership a real possibility.
- Purchasing a vehicle can enable an IDA saver to access a higher-paying job.
- Emergency savings create resilience in the face of emergencies, preventing traumatic setbacks such as evictions.

We urge your support for the IDA Initiative to continue the Legislature's long-standing, bipartisan support for the Oregon IDA Initiative. Please support the full range of IDA options with \$10 million in support from the general fund.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Gladstone  
Co-President LWVOR



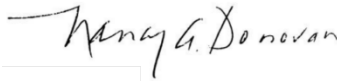
Jean Pierce  
Social Policy Coordinator



Debbie Aiona  
Housing Portfolio



Beth Jacobi  
Housing Portfolio



Nancy Donovan  
Housing Portfolio

Cc: [Senate President Rob Wagner](#), [Senate Majority Leader Kate Lieber](#), [Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Ways and Means](#), [Senator Tim Knopp](#), [Senator Deb Patterson](#), [Senator Janeen Sollman](#)