



*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.*

May 9, 2025

To: Co-Chairs [Senator Girod](#) and [Rep. Nosse](#), [Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction](#)

Re: **[SB 5531](#) – Lottery bonds for affordable housing preservation, and infrastructure to support new housing production – SUPPORT**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon believes that persons who are unable to work, or whose earnings are inadequate, or for whom jobs are not available have the right to an income and/or services to meet their basic needs for food, shelter, and access to health care.

The League supports SB 5531 that authorizes lottery bond revenue to pay for preserving existing affordable homes and the municipal infrastructure needed to support new housing development.

There is widespread recognition of Oregon’s housing shortage, particularly for very low-income households. Thirty-six affordable housing properties in Oregon face foreclosure in the next two years. An additional 76 properties are operating at a monthly deficit, and dragging down the finances of housing operators due to unsustainable operating costs. Losing these homes will force even more Oregonians into homelessness or housing instability.

Preservation is a cost-effective and efficient approach to addressing the housing crisis. Allocating \$160 million for preservation of rental housing and \$25 million to preserve manufactured housing parks is a wise investment in keeping vulnerable Oregonians in their homes.

We further support the \$100 million Housing Infrastructure Fund in Section 14. One of the barriers to housing production is the lack of infrastructure needed to support development. This allocation is consistent with HB 3031 (also [supported](#) by LWVOR) that, if passed, would provide financial assistance through the Housing Infrastructure Fund for municipal infrastructure including transportation, water, wastewater, and stormwater facilities. The financial assistance program will result in affordable housing for families and individuals with very low, low, or moderate incomes.

We urge your support for SB 5531.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Lisa Bentson  
President LWVOR

Debbie Aiona  
Housing Portfolio

Nancy Donovan  
Housing Portfolio