

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.

February 8, 2024

To: Chair Sen. Dembrow, Vice-Chair Sen. Weber, Committee Members

Senate Committee on Education

Re: <u>SB 1552</u> – Omnibus bill on Education – **Comment**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports parts of this bill which are consistent with our positions. We are neutral on other parts because we have no relevant positions for them.

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation at all levels of government.

Therefore, we support that this Bill creates an Oregon Department of Education Youth Advisory Council, giving youth from around our State just representation for future generations.

It is the position of the League of Women Voters of Oregon that the major portion of the cost of public schools should be borne by the State, with sufficient funds to give each child an equal and adequate education.

Therefore we support:

- Updating the Quality Education Model in order for the legislature to increase its understanding of the system of financing each K-12 school district throughout our State.
- Modifying calculations to create a more stable school funding program for youth in State Corrections and Juvenile Detention, and put this into law.

We urge your support for these parts of SB 1552.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Rebecca Gladstone

Co-President LWVOR

Repena L. Hadstone

Anne Nesse

Education Portfolio

Janne L. Nessel