

## **2020 LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) is a 100-year-old grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good across rural/urban and party divides. We encourage respectful civil discourse. The League never supports or opposes any individual candidate or political party. We do advocate on policy issues. LWVOR Legislative Action is always based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. Please sign up for our legislative newsletter and follow our activities during the session at <a href="http://lwvor.org/home/take-action/">http://lwvor.org/home/take-action/</a>.

## THE LWVOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION TEAM 2020 SESSION PRIORITIES:

- ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY by supporting Clean Energy Jobs legislation to reduce greenhouse
  gas emissions to zero before 2050 while ensuring a just transition for workers and impacted communities.
- PROTECT DEMOCRACY by educating for and supporting an independent citizen redistricting commission
  to address gerrymandering. Fund election protection and defend voter registration integrity. Fund
  Oregon's Citizens' Initiative Review. Support a state constitutional amendment and statutes that
  implement campaign finance reform.
- SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH with an integrated approach to address suicide, alcohol and drug addictions, adverse childhood experiences, and anti-social or violent behavior.
- ADVOCATE FOR ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS AND HEALTH CARE REFORMS by preserving adequate
  Medicaid funding to build on Oregon's innovation to cover all kids and vulnerable adults. Focus on services
  for seniors, people with disabilities, and foster youth.
- **PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY MEASURES** by fully funding community corrections programs, revising laws for juvenile offenders, and mandating the safe storage of firearms.
- **SUPPORT 100-YEAR WATER VISION** to assure abundant clean water for all.
- GENERATE ADEQUATE REVENUE for essential services while promoting equity and progressivity in tax policy.

## CONTACT LWVOR: Becky Gladstone, LWVOR President, and Alice Bartelt, LWVOR Legislative Action

**Chair**, along with our team of volunteers listed below, are available to provide clarifications on League positions. Call our office at 503.581.5722 or directly contact portfolio chairs in specific areas listed below. LWVOR Action team members are experienced, unpaid volunteers. Our advocates focus on the broad areas of Climate Emergency, Governance and Protecting Democracy, Human Services, Public Safety, Health Care, Housing, Natural Resources, Education, and Revenue.

## **PRIORITIES LISTED BY AREA:**

<u>CLIMATE EMERGENCY:</u> Advocates for a variety of policies and budgets to reduce risks and plan for adaptation where needed relating to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC recommendations. LWVOR supports the Our Children's Trust state and federal lawsuits and consideration for statewide binding municipal climate emergency declarations, and we oppose the Jordan Cove Energy Project. Claudia Keith, ca.keith@comcast.net with Julie Chapman, Shirley Weathers, Nancy Murray, and Cathy Frischmann

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**GOVERNANCE, PROTECTING DEMOCRACY:** Advocates for governance issues including ethics, efficiency, citizen participation and access, public records and meetings law, and contemporary privacy and technology issues. Elections policies include campaign finance reform, laws and administrative rules, and redistricting. **Norman Turrill, nturrill@mac.com** 

Bill Review: Rick Bennett

Citizens' Initiative Review: Marge Easley

• Election Security: Becky Gladstone

Immigration and Bias/Hate Crimes: Claudia Keith

League Position Research: Ann Potter

Public Access to Legislative Procedures: Paula Krane

• Research: Josie Koehne

HUMAN SERVICES, PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH CARE, HOUSING: Addresses social policy areas including adult corrections, judiciary, juvenile justice, public safety, gun safety, health care, mental health, housing, foster care, social services, and women's issues. Actively lobbies for anti-poverty programs to help low income and at-risk people move toward financial stability. Karen Nibler, niblerk@comcast.net

Criminal Justice Reform: Barbara RossDeath Penalty Repeal: Alice Bartelt

• Gun Safety: Marge Easley

Health and Human Services: Karen NiblerHousing: Debbie Aiona and Nancy Donovan

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** Works year-round on improved air quality, combating climate change, coastal management, clean energy, proper disposal of hazardous materials and solid waste, conservation, land use, parks, clean and abundant water supply for all, resource preservation, and budgets related to Oregon's 14 natural resource agencies. **Peggy Lynch, peggylynchor@gmail.com** 

Air Quality: Susan Mates

Columbia River Treaty: Phillip Thor

Coastal Issues: Peggy Joyce

Drinking-Water Advisory Committee Representative: Amelia Nestler

Forestry: Josie Koehne

• Hanford Cleanup Board Representative/Nuclear Waste: Marylou Schnoes

Land Use/Aggregate: Marge EasleyLand Use/Housing: Peggy Lynch

Northwest Energy Coalition Representative: Robin Tokmakian

Pesticides/Toxics: Amelia NestlerWater Issues: Peggy Lynch

• Natural Resource Agency Budgets: Peggy Lynch

**EDUCATION:** Follows student success, early learning, career technical programs (CTE), PK-12 and higher education. We advocate minimizing barriers impacting education for children at risk or historically underserved and underachieving youth. **Chris Vogel, ChrisVogelVolunteerLWVOR@gmail.com** with Stephanie Feeney, Anne Nesse, Barbara Sellers-Young, Alice Bartelt, Shirley Nelson.

TAX AND REVENUE POLICY: Addresses fair, equitable, and stable tax and revenue policies to adequately fund services and functions critical to Oregonians. Chris Vogel, ChrisVogelVolunteerLWVOR@gmail.com and Maud Naroll, MaudLWVOR@gmail.com

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