

April 15, 2013

To: Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Senator Jackie Dingfelder, Chair Members of the Committee

Re: SB 401, Scenic Rivers - SUPPORT

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League has strong positions on water, coastal management and on parks where we believe "....a parks system...should provide the following services: Acquire, protect and preserve natural, scenic, cultural, historic, and wildlife sites....." "....the Oregon parks system requires a long-range strategic plan that includes periodic evaluation...... Such a plan should give high priority toProtection of scenic waterways."

As a result of our years of study and adoption of these positions, we support SB 401 to identify additional scenic rivers in Oregon. Oregon's Scenic Rivers Act not only protects the waters for wild salmon, but our drinking water and the scenic beauty that brings visitors to Oregon. The rivers and streams identified in SB 401 are among the most cherished by Oregonians. It's time to protect these rivers and streams.

We ask that you pass SB 401.

Sincerely,

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Robin Wisdom President

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Peggy Lynch Natural Resources Coordinator