

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 97-year-old 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 8, 2017

To: Senate Committee on Education

Senator Arnie Roblan, Chair

Re: <u>HB 2013</u> – Modifies requirements for preschool program administered by Early Learning

Division – **Support**

The League of Women Voters believes that the early years of a child's life are crucial in building the foundation for educational attainment and greatly impact success or failure in later life. The League of Women Voters has many <u>Positions on Education</u> that support early identification of risk factors and early intervention. Our <u>Children at Risk, Early Learning</u> study, published in 2015, detailed the formation of Oregon's Early Learning System.

We continue to follow Early Learning Council meetings, the growing maturity of the regional HUBs, and programs such as Preschool Promise throughout the year, not just during the legislative session. We commend the growing maturity of Oregon's Early Learning System.

We support HB 2013 and <u>agree with the testimony</u> presented by the Hub Directors overseeing Preschool Promise: Oregon American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 75, and Oregon School Employees Association in the earlier <u>House Committee On Early Childhood and Family Supports</u>. We commend the teamwork we observe between state, regional and local level professionals working to fine-tune Early Learning. We appreciate the Legislature's flexibility to assist in melding our disparate and patchwork activities to better serve young children and their families.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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