



*The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 99-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.*

March 7, 2019

To: House Committee on Judiciary  
Representative Jennifer Williamson, Co-Chair  
Representative Chris Gorsek, Co-Chair

Re: **HB 2625** – Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women – **Support**

The League of Women Voter of United States has had a position on Equal Rights regardless of sex since the 1970 federal Equal Rights Amendment. Equal rights under the law include public safety and protections against violence. Indigenous people are American citizens who should be protected under federal law.

If Indian women are subjected to violence, they should have equal protections under the law and equal prosecutions for violence against them. The League is appalled to learn that indigenous women are not protected and crimes against them are not prosecuted. The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports the request for a study by the Oregon State Police with the goal of increasing protective and investigative resources for indigenous women.

The League considers this request to be a high priority for the attention of the state police forces and the coordination of services with the tribal members.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norman Turrill". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Norman Turrill  
LWVOR President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Nibler". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Karen Nibler  
Social Policy Coordinator