



*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 6, 2019

To: Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety  
Senator Jackie Winters, Co-Chair  
Representative Carla Piluso, Co-Chair

Re: **SB 5541** – Oregon Youth Authority Budget – **Support**

The League of Women Voters has a position on Juvenile Justice that supports services for juvenile offenders in the least restrictive environment and/or treatment oriented secure custody.

The Oregon Youth Authority has managed to consolidate and update their facilities which may help to stay within a reduced budget. Supervision of youth in custody or in the communities requires a trained staff who are consistently available, so reduction of staff levels may be problematic. School and work training programs are also staff intensive but are necessary for the reformation of youth in custody.

The League believes that OYA services can prevent the youth offenders from further law violations and incarceration in the adult system. In that spirit, we encourage passage of a budget that will allow the agency to continue the custody programs and community supervision for the number of youth who have been committed to their care.

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