

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.

April 2, 2019

To: House Judiciary Committee Rep. Jennifer Williamson, Chair

Re: HB 2013 – Relating to firearms prohibition in domestic violence court orders – Support

The League of Women Voters of Oregon strongly supports efforts to protect victims of domestic violence. We are therefore pleased to see that HB 2013 closes loopholes in current laws pertaining to individuals subject to court protective orders by providing additional firearm prohibition requirements.

We agree with the provision in HB 2013 that the firearm prohibition should remain in effect regardless of whether or not the individual under a court protective order requests a hearing or withdraws from a hearing. Likewise, we support the notification of the Department of Justice and the performance of a background check prior to the return of the firearm.

The League believes we need to do much more to protect those in domestic violence situations. It is unacceptable that women in the United States are 16 times more likely to be shot and killed than are women in other developed nations, and the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation makes it five times more likely that the woman will be killed.

We urge a yes vote on HB 2013. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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