

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 100-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.

February 5, 2020

- To: House Committee on Judiciary <u>Rep. Tawna Sanchez, Chair</u>
- Cc: hjud.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov
- Re: <u>HB 4121</u> Relating to Correctional Facility Contracts Support

HB 4121 'Provides that **Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility** (NORCOR) may not contract with United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement if Legislative Assembly appropriates, for distribution to facility, specified amount of moneys.'

The LWV Oregon supports the LWVUS immigration position: *"Immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families; meet economic, business and employment needs; and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crisis.*

WHY IT MATTERS: All persons should receive fair treatment under the law and it is critical for the U.S. to encourage immigrant participation in our democracy.

WHAT WE'RE DOING: We support federal immigration laws that provide efficient, expeditious systems for immigrants to enter the United States. Seeking asylum at points of entry into the United States is part of our legal immigration process and assaults on asylum seekers are unAmerican. The League of Women Voters stands in solidarity with immigrants and our partners in the immigrant rights community.

The League supports HB 4121 as it relates to our immigration / refugee human rights position.

Additionally, the League is aware how this funding decision could fill a need by providing additional space to a number of Oregon counties that have expressed interest and or have correctional space issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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Rebecca Gladstone LWVOR President

Cc: <u>Rep.AnnaWilliams@oregonlegislature.gov</u> <u>Rep.DanielBonham@oregonlegislature.gov</u>

Claudia Keith LWVOR Immigration/Refugee Portfolio