



The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 101-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 6, 2021

To: House Committee on Education
Chair, Representative Teresa Alonso Leon
Vice-Chair, Representative Courtney Neron
Vice-Chair, Representative Suzanne Weber

Re: HB 3234 - requires school districts to provide instruction on organ and tissue donation and education - **SUPPORT**

LWVUS policy is to "Promote social and economic justice, and the health and safety of all Americans."

HB 3234 (Rayfield) states "As an integral part of the health education curriculum for students in the public schools of this state, each school district must provide at least 15 minutes of instruction per school year on organ and tissue donation and education. **The instruction must be designed to develop a knowledge of the lifesaving potential of organ and tissue donations.** The Department of Education may provide technical assistance in developing the curriculum required under this section."

Also heard this session, HB 2506 (Fahey) Establishes an Organ Donor Registry and Public Awareness Fund. Testimony presented the overwhelming need for donors. Many individuals spend years on waiting lists while health continues to decline or death occurs. Donor recipients are literally given a gift of life.

A number of Leagues around the country have partnered with organ donation initiatives as demonstrated in New York. In a future legislative session you may also wish to consider additional action— New York State is also the only state in the country that **includes organ donation registration on the voter registration form.**

Oregon allows teens to register to vote when obtaining a driver’s license, even before voting eligibility at 18. **The synergy of also registering to be an organ donor at the DMV when receiving their first driver’s license would be enhanced if students have knowledge of the lifesaving potential of organ and tissue donations.**

Thank you for the opportunity to support this bill.

Rebecca Gladstone
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LWVOR Education Coordinator

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Cc: Representative Rayfield
Representative Fahey