

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: <u>House Committee on Education</u> Chair, Representative Teresa Alonso Leon Vice-Chair, Representative Courtney Neron Vice-Chair, Representative Suzanne Weber
- Re: <u>HB 2969</u> Directs school districts to provide age-appropriate instruction in oral health as part of health education curriculum **Support**

HB 2969 directs the Oregon Department of Education to develop oral health curriculum standards and incorporate them within health curriculum standards when they are next updated and requires Oregon Health Authority to accept claims for reimbursement of costs related to care coordination surrounding school-based oral health services. This bill also advocates for Oregon's CCOs and Public Health agencies to continue to support coordination of school-based oral health programs to ensure that students can continue to receive oral health education and care.

LWVOR Positions support policies, programs, and funding at all levels of the community and government that promote the well-being, encourage the full development, and ensure the safety of all children. These include:

- Early screening (physical, dental, mental, and behavioral) for all children
- Early prenatal care and ongoing health care for children (physical, mental, dental)

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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Rebecca Gladstone LWVOR President

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Bill Walsh LWVOR Healthcare Portfolio

Chris Vogel and Anne Nesse LWVOR Education Portfolio

Cc: Chief Sponsors: Representative Nosse, Hayden Regular Sponsors: Representative Alonso Leon, Hudson, Neron, Reardon, Salinas, Schouten, Smith DB, Sollman