

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 22, 2021

To: Senator Lee Beyer and Representative Susan McLain, Co-Chairs

Joint Committee on Transportation

Re: HB 3324 – Establishes Oregon Vehicle Industry Board – Oppose

This bill would break off a piece of the responsibilities of the Oregon Department of Transportation, the Director of Transportation, and the Business Regulation Office of DMV and place it into a new Vehicle Industry Board dominated by business and industry representatives with little or no public representation. This effectively would privatize a piece of Oregon government that has long served and protected Oregon citizens and consumers.

The League of Women Voters of the United States studied, held consensus meetings, and formed a position on privatization of government functions between 2010 and 2012. This Position states in part:

While the League recognizes that the definition of core government services will vary by level of government and community values, services fundamental to the governance of a democratic society should not be privatized in their entirety. These services include the electoral process, justice system, military, public safety, public health, education, transportation, environmental protection, and programs that protect and provide basic human needs. (Emphasis added.)

This bill is apparently preparing for another bill in the 2023 session. Supporters present a long list of other regulatory boards that are similarly organized. However, those boards are for the most part professional boards for accountants, appraisers, architects, etc. and are not business and consumer oriented. This new board would be of a different character.

We urge your opposition to HB 3324.

Repens L. Hadstone

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Rebecca Gladstone LWVOR President Norman Turrill

LWVOR Governance Coordinator

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