



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 26, 2021

To: House Committee on Energy and Environment
Representative Pam Marsh, Chair

Re: **SB 333 A – Renewable Hydrogen – Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports climate goals and policies that are consistent with the best available climate science and that will ensure a stable climate system for future generations. In order to accomplish these goals, we support environmentally sound policies that reduce energy growth rates, emphasize energy conservation, and **encourage the use of renewable resources.**

Our written and verbal testimony at the Senate Energy and Environment Committee public hearing was based on the bill prior to its being amended, so some of the statements are no longer relevant. **We hereby express our support of SB 333 as passed by the Senate.**

We believe now is the time for Oregon to position itself to take advantage of the increased interest in renewable hydrogen. By the end of 2021 the Douglas County Public Utility District in Washington will generate hydrogen with a facility using electricity from the Wells Dam on the Columbia River to run an electrolyzer.

Renewable hydrogen can be an important contributor to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in several sectors, including transportation, industry, and electricity. TriMet is considering hydrogen-fueled buses as alternatives to electric buses on some routes, because they have much shorter refueling times and can go further between refueling. It can also be used to increase grid resiliency and enhance utility load balancing in a totally renewable manner.

We have no specific concerns with the study being requested, although **we would like to see the inclusion of potential economic benefit.** One possibility is exporting hydrogen generated by excess electricity from floating offshore wind turbines. We hope the report will identify needed policy changes and state funding that can be ready for approval at the 2023 legislative session.

Thank you for allowing us to express our support for this legislation.

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President

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