



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.

May 11, 2021

To: [Senator Floyd Prozanski](#), Chair
[Senate Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation](#)

Re: [HB 3047 A](#) – Makes “doxing” actionable, defines terms – **Support**

Doxing refers to improper exposure of previously private information, usually with malicious intent. HB 3047 A would establish a civil cause of action for “doxing”, and define these terms: disclose, harass, and injure; and list examples of the information. We support this bill and encourage you to look at the League of Women Voters of Oregon [Cybersecurity position](#) adopted this January, from our 2020 [Privacy and Cybersecurity Today](#) study. Several concepts are relevant:

- Expand personal information privacy definitions to address rapidly changing information and communication technologies.
- Regulate categories of information in the same way.
- Apply strong cybersecurity protections with effective deterrents to assure information integrity.
- Assure that personal information collection, use, transfer and disclosure for economic or societal purposes is consistent with the purpose for which data is provided, and does not cause them harm.

The League study showed that evolving technologies challenge common privacy assumptions. Until recently, most would expect privacy for examples listed in this bill: personal email and home addresses, personal phone numbers, contact information for employers and family members, and our children’s images and schools. Other testimony for this bill lists rapid public disclosure of mugshots, before guilt is determined. A quick online search can readily reveal much of this, and online information persists.

Importantly, this bill excludes action for such a casual search by requiring establishment of intent to stalk, harass, or injure. For example, we call your attention to Oregon candidate filing information, publicly listed in ORESTAR, without malicious intent. Home address and both work and home telephone numbers are required for filing, to determine jurisdictions and to facilitate certification. Public disclosure of these is not necessary, however, as recommended in [HB 3393](#), which the League also supports. It recommends including these revisions in upcoming election software updates. League positions recommend protecting this sort of private information consistently.

As a state, we need to address the heightened risks of personal information exposure by 21st-century technologies, and commit to high standards for personal information use, meaningful information protection, and appropriate measures to limit potential harms. That applies to those participating in lawful protests, those running for public office, and any who might be subject to malicious doxing. Anticipating that governments at all levels around the globe will soon be addressing information and communication technology policy, the time is right for Oregon to review and strengthen its data responsibilities, from privacy rights to public information transparency, to providing consequences for infractions.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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Cc:
[Senator Kim Thatcher](#), Vice-Chair
[Senator Michael Dembrow](#)

[Senator Sara Gelser](#)

[Senator Dallas Heard](#)

[Senator Dennis Linthicum](#)

[Senator James Manning Jr.](#)