

February 1, 2022

Committee Chair John Lively, Committee Vice Chair Jami Cate, Committee Vice Chair Jason Kropf, and Members of the Committee:

As a member of the AAUW of OR (American Association of University Women of Oregon) Public Policy Team- Ashland, OR Branch, I strongly support HB 4092.

It is my observation and opinion that the ability for all areas of Oregon, urban and rural alike, should have reliable high speed broadband internet service. We rely on this type of internet to connect all the services of our state to one another. It provides education, public/private commerce, agriculture, communication, government and civic involvement, physical /mental health etc.

Since Covid-19 began, I have a friend who suffers from a chronic serious underlying condition, therefore confining her mostly to her home. Luckily, she was able to connect on Zoom through her high-speed broadband service in Ashland, with her physicians and mental health providers. That isn't the case with many of her friends that live in more rural areas. There should be equal high speed broadband internet service to all Oregonians.

I encourage you to support HB 4092.

Lesley Kaufman, Ashland, OR  
Member of Public Policy Team  
AAUW-Ashland Branch