



The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a 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.

February 21, 2023

To: [Chair, Senator Janeen Sollman](#)
[Senate Energy and Environment Committee](#)

Re: [SB 522](#) - **Oregon Global Warming Commission – SUPPORT**

Because the League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) believes that climate change is a serious threat facing our nation and planet, LWVOR 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.

We urge your support for SB 522, which changes the name of the "Oregon Global Warming Commission" to "Oregon Climate Action Commission." It also modifies the membership and duties of the commission.

We approve of the name change from the "Oregon Global Warming Commission" to the "Oregon Climate Action Commission." In fact, we would like to see references to "global warming" changed to "climate change" throughout the document. As we have learned in the past few years, there are many more impacts of the increasing temperature than just higher temperatures: record low temperatures, wildfires, flooding, more severe storms, and droughts.

We support having the target requirements in Executive Order 20-04 codified in legislation. We understand there may be an amendment with more stringent targets, which we would support, since the Climate Protection Program and HB 2021 (2021) have already adopted higher values. We also like the emphasis on "the best available science."

We approve the expansion of the carbon sequestration goals beyond forests to include all natural and working lands. Therefore, we do not believe retaining the details relating only to forests is appropriate.

We agree with the addition of the two new voting members. Oregon has become aware of the more harmful effects of climate change on environmental justice communities and believes they should be represented by a voting member. We also support the addition of a youth member. After all, it is their future Earth that is being most harmed now.

In addition to the support from the State Department of Energy, we continue the League's previous support for at least one staff person for the Oregon Climate Action Commission. As more is being asked of this important volunteer group, Oregonians should help pay for the staffing and contract work needed.

We agree state agencies should report at least once each year to the commission on their progress toward achieving greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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President LWV

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