



*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 27, 2023

To: Chair Pam Marsh, [Energy and Environment](#)

Re: [HB 3196-1](#) – Fees from Community Climate Investment funds – SUPPORT

We wish to express support for HB 3196-1.

The League of Women Voters believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibilities, **adequate financing**, and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.

HB 3196-1 creates the Community Climate Investment Oversight Fund and authorizes the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) to establish fees to be paid by community climate investment entities and used only for administering and overseeing the Community Climate Investment (CCI) projects. The fees will be taken out of the money paid by the covered fuel suppliers to buy the CCIs, with a maximum withdrawal of 5 percent of the funds collected during the period for which the fee applies. The Community Climate Investment program is part of the Climate Protection Program adopted by the EQC in December 2021.

This item is covered by POP 515 regarding Community Climate Investments in the [Governor’s Budget](#).

A League member was actively involved in the development of the Climate Protection Program and the League submitted testimony several times. It is a very complex program, so it is not surprising that some things may have been inadvertently omitted.

We support having the fees taken out of the money paid by the regulated fuel suppliers, rather than out of state money, and we think the conditions provide reasonable safeguards while allowing the Department the freedom to develop the specific rules. We specifically approve the 5 percent limit, since the money paid in fees will be taken out of the money which can be used to support projects. We definitely support the -1 Amendment, which provides that interest earned on the fees stays in the Oversight Fund. This will allow the entities to keep more of the money for projects.

We urge your support for HB 3196-1 and thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Rebecca Gladstone  
President LWVOR

Claudia Keith  
Climate Emergency

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