



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.

January 30, 2025

To: [Sen. Jeff Golden](#), Chair and [Sen. Todd Nash](#), Vice-Chair
Members of the [Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire](#)

Re: **[SB 830](#) – Grants for onsite septic systems – Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon continues to support programs to provide low-interest loans for on-site septic repairs as we did last week in [support](#) of [HB 2168](#). However, we have noted that many low-income property owners are unable to pay for even the cost of these low-interest loans; therefore, **we support a change in legislative direction to the Dept. of Environmental Quality so that grants may be allowed.**

Additionally, we are pleased that this bill would expand the opportunity for access to these grants and loans to affordable housing projects. Allowing larger septic systems such as those serving low-income people living in manufactured home parks will both protect our water quality and be more likely to assure that these homes remain available and safe for these Oregonians.

We support this bill because the League has multiple positions related to water quality: *“The League opposes degradation of all of Oregon’s surface and ground water.” “The League supports policies and legislation that integrate water quality into resource management and include but are not limited to standards for:Placement and inspection of septic tanks and alternative individual treatment systems,Permitting and enforcement procedures with agency funding adequate to ensure timely compliance,Support should be provided for upgrading and maintaining the equipment necessary...”*

We urge your Support of SB 830.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Bentson".

Lisa Bentson
President LWVOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peggy Lynch".

Peggy Lynch
Natural Resources Coordinator