



*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 13, 2025

To: [Chair Rep. Annessa Hartman, Vice Chairs Rep. Hoa Nguyen, Rep. Anna Scharf,](#)  
[Members of the House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services](#)

Re: [HB 3079](#) – Relating to Youth Homelessness – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) supports the intent of HB 3079 to expand funding to the Department of Human Services and the Housing and Community Services Division to prevent homelessness among school age children and beyond. When youth are separated from their families, LWVOR supports providing services plus outreach to encourage youth to use services. The League has advocated for this in earlier legislative sessions and has served on agency committees.

A [study on Oregon's Homeless Youth](#) was published by LWVOR in 2006. At that time, the Commissions on Children and Families were involved in county services to homeless youth. The larger counties established temporary shelters with grants and local funds, but a statewide system was not established.

The Department of Human Services provides minimal funding for families who qualify and refers eligible families to other state and local services. Resources for moderate rentals are needed in the market for young adults, disabled persons, and seniors. Recent efforts provide rental funds to young adults to establish housing stability while they become independent. The League supports efforts to assist young adults to become economically independent.

We urge your support for HB3079.

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 "Karen Nibler".

Karen Nibler  
Behavioral Health Portfolio