



*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 11, 2025

To: [Chair Rep. Ben Bowman](#), Vice Chairs [Rep. Christine Drazan](#), [Rep. Hai Pham](#), and  
[Members of the House Rules Committee](#)

Re: [HB 2727](#) – Relating to limitations on post-legislative service activity – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) has supported strengthening the state’s ethics laws for decades. To the League, these laws are a simple matter of governmental integrity. An area of concern to the League is how and when former legislators should be allowed to use their earned and learned legislative expertise after leaving the Legislative Assembly.

HB 2727 expands restrictions on post-legislative service activities to prohibit receiving money or other consideration for advocacy on behalf of a public or private entity for changes in policy or funding for public or private sector programs or entities within one year of ceasing to be a member.

One issue in this legislation, which must be clarified with an amendment, is the difference between “lobbying” and “advocacy”. “Advocating” is used in the proposed bill but has no definition and has a broad connotation. “Lobbying” has a precise definition in statute but may not fit the proposal’s intention.

In the February 10 public hearing, the sponsor stressed that “revolving door” restrictions on former legislators' post-service employment may violate their First Amendment rights, and their right to earn a living after leaving the legislature.

Public service requires sacrifices of and restrictions against those who elect to serve, in order to ensure that they understand not only the avoidance of *quid pro quo* corruption, but even the appearance of *quid pro quo* corruption. HB 2727 would strengthen these protections after the end of their legislative service.

For these reasons, the LWVOR supports HB 2727.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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