

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.

March 3, 2025

To: Chair Pham, Vice Chair Anderson, and Members of the

Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Re: SB 973 – Requires landlords of publicly supported housing to provide notices when

affordable housing will expire – Support

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that one of the goals of social policy in the United States should be to promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families and that the most-effective social programs are those designed to prevent or reduce poverty. Because of our position, the League appreciates this bill and what it intends to accomplish:

- SB 973 will protect residents of publicly-supported housing by requiring notices from landlords when affordability restrictions are ending. This applies to tenants who are living in subsidized units, applicants, and new tenants.
- For existing tenants, the bill would extend the notice requirements from 20 to 30 months. It will require landlords to warn tenants that their housing will no longer be affordable.
- For applicants and new tenants who are entering into a new rental agreement, landlords of publicly-supported housing must provide written notice of when the affordability period will end, prior to charging a screening fee or entering into a new rental application.
- The Housing and Community Services Department would be required to adopt rules by December 1, 2025, to define the provisions of notices, and post them on their website in five of the commonly spoken languages in Oregon.

These tenant protections are critical to give low-income Oregonians additional time to find stable housing they can afford.

We recommend passage of SB 973 and appreciate the opportunity to comment on this bill. Thank you for your service.

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