

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 11, 2025

- To: <u>Rep. John Lively</u>, Chair; <u>Rep. Mark Gamba</u> and <u>Rep. Bobby Levi</u>, Vice Chairs <u>House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment</u>
- Re: <u>HB 3477</u> Updating Oregon's Greenhouse Gas Emission Targets Support

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) believes that climate change is a serious threat facing our nation and planet, and supports climate goals consistent with the best available science that will ensure a stable climate system for future generations. The League advocates in favor of laws, regulations, and policies to mitigate climate change and its impact.

LWVOR strongly supports HB 3477, unfinished business from 2024, that would provide a much-needed update of Oregon's greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction goals in current statute, consistent with practices to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

ORS 468A.205, enacted in 2007, established reduction goals for 2010, 2020, and 2050 based on the best science at the time, and created the Oregon Global Warming Commission (now Oregon Climate Action Commission) to track the state's progress toward achieving those goals. However, the interim goals are now woefully out of date and need to be modernized.

HB 3477 would update Oregon's current 2050 goal and replace the outdated interim goals with new goals for 2030 and 2040, in line with current science and global agreements. Moving forward, Oregon's climate policy should focus on these updated targets. Accordingly, HB 3477 declares these targets as policy goals rather than "aspirations" as in previous versions of this measure. The bill states explicitly that it would not authorize any additional regulatory action by an agency of the executive branch.

LWVOR urges your support for HB 3477.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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