

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 31, 2025

To: Senator Jama, Chair, Senate Committee On Rules

Re: SB 1046 – Automatic voter registration via Dept of Fish and Wildlife – Support with comments

The League supports SB 1046 to further expand automatic voter registration, famous as "Motor Voter", as extended to the Oregon Health Authority in 2023, to the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. We support registering qualified voters accessibly, in a well-publicized, understandable way that is easy to implement and administer.

The League supports efficiency in government by expanding voter registration efficiently and securely to additional state agencies. Adequate support must be provided to securely implement appropriate protocol adoption and to train staff for seamless data transfer, as described in ORS 247.018, relating to the Oregon Health Plan.

We supported HB 4133 Enrolled (2022) (League testimony), which amended ORS 247.019, to expand to the Oregon Health Authority. It aligned Oregon's voter registration system, the paper and online options in ways that are currently accepted business practice, to conduct transactions using an electronically filed signature image. It expanded to include social security numbers, also commonly accepted in business transactions, and not proof of citizenship.

From a League perspective, attending the Oregon Electronic Portal Advisory Board, Oregonians conduct a great deal of business online with numerous state agencies. The League endorses contemporary efficiency and security procedures for voter registration. Our information security position calls to "Regulate all categories of information in the same way, regardless of the type of organization or sector that collects that information." A systematic protocol must be rigorously applied and should be adopted after time is allotted to ensure compliance and trustworthy implementation.

We urge your Support for SB 1046.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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