



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.

May 14, 2025

To: [Senator Kayse Jama](#), Chair, [Senate Committee On Rules](#)

Re: [HB 2932](#) – Allowing public officials higher education teaching – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports HB 2932, allowing an exemption for public officials to teach and get paid for teaching at least one course at Oregon’s higher education institutions. The League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) emphasizes ethical advocacy principles, including non-partisanship, consensus-based decision-making, and a focus on public education and engagement. LWVUS advocates for a more informed and engaged electorate, promotes transparency in government, and works to ensure that all voices are heard in the political process. LWVUS holds government officials accountable for their actions and decisions, promoting responsible and ethical behavior in government. We do not see teaching at our universities and community colleges as a conflict of interest for public officials.

Including those engaged professionally as public officials to share their professional perspectives, as faculty, can help directly with our position goal of postsecondary education: a primary goal of Oregon’s public postsecondary education should be to provide a broad spectrum of higher education for professional, vocational, and personal enrichment. We do not take a position against paying those with related professional experience for teaching.

As an example, the job of our “citizen’s legislature” members is considered "part-time" and is compensated accordingly. Legislators are paid \$33,852 per year. Presiding officers (the House Speaker and Senate President) are compensated double, \$67,704 per year. It is reasonable to assume that these and other public officials may be further employed to support themselves.¹ Note that public officials serve in multiple capacities across Oregon, beyond elected offices.

We urge your Support for HB 2932. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Lisa Bentson
President LWVOR

Rebecca Gladstone
Governance

Norman Turrill
Governance Coordinator

¹ Oregon Legislative Assembly. Wikipedia, last update January 21, 2025.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oregon_Legislative_Assembly#:~:text=the%20legislative%20interim-,Legislator%20salary%20and%20compensation,compensated%20double%2C%20%2467%2C704%20per%20year.