



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 27, 2025

To: [Representative Thuy Tran](#), Chair, [House Committee on Emergency Management](#),
[General Government, and Veterans](#)

Re: [HB 2949](#) – Risk Bond Study – **Support**

LWVOR has strong positions on air quality, land use, water quality, protecting our coastal resources, public health, and climate change. LWVOR believes that all levels of government share the responsibility of coordinating, implementing and funding an effective program to mitigate Oregon’s earthquake and tsunami hazards. Priority must be given to mitigation that protects human life and safeguards critical life-support systems. When siting critical facilities, seismic factors such as severe ground shaking, liquefaction, massive landslide potential, and subsidence should be considered. LWVOR has been working on seismic issues since 1995. In 2022, LWVOR endorsed [SB 1567](#) as an initial step towards statewide energy infrastructure resilience and geographic diversity. Now LWVOR urges passage of HB 2949 as a next step towards achieving those critical goals.

By directing the Department of Energy to assess the potential for requiring owners of terminals located in the Critical Energy Infrastructure Hub to obtain risk bonds (i.e., financial assurance for costs associated with catastrophic releases after an earthquake), the bill opens an important pathway to make funds immediately available after an earthquake and to protect local taxpayers from the need to pay such costs when terminals are unable or unwilling to pay.

We urge your support for the Risk Bond Study bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Barbara Klein
Acting President LWVOR

Claudia Keith
Climate Emergency Coordinator

Laura Rogers
Critical Energy Infrastructure

Nikki Mandell
Critical Energy Infrastructure

Cc: [Rep. Dacia Grayber](#), [Rep. Rick Lewis](#), [Rep. Court Boice](#), [Rep. Paul Evans](#),
[Rep. Alek Skarlatos](#), [Rep. Mari Watanabe](#)