



*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 11, 2026

To: [Sen. Floyd Prozanski](#), Chair  
[Senate Committee on Judiciary](#)

Re: [SJR 203](#) – Constitutional amendment on secret police – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports SJR 203 based on our belief that a criminal justice system must be just, effective, equitable, and transparent in order to foster public trust at all stages. This bill, in a referral to voters, embeds a simple but powerful concept into the Oregon Constitution—secret police are prohibited. Law enforcement officers at all levels of government may not be masked, and they are to conspicuously display the name of the governmental agency they represent as well as the officer's badge number. Exceptions are granted for undercover or SWAT team operations.

Support for government transparency is a guiding principle for the League, and as such has been a consistent through-line in our legislative testimony over many years. The urgent need for a constitutional amendment that prohibits secret police has been made clear by the often unlawful and violent nature of federal immigration enforcement operations within Oregon and across the nation, with masked and unidentified officers detaining and arresting both immigrants and non-immigrants alike, engendering community fear and intimidation.

We are well aware that on February 2 US District Judge Christina Snyder blocked a California law that limits when federal officers can wear masks. However, because SJR 203 applies to all law enforcement officers equally we do not believe it violates the US Constitution's Supremacy Clause. We heartily concur with this statement in Judge Snyder's ruling on the California anti-masking law: "The Court finds that these Acts serve the public interest by promoting transparency which is essential for accountability and public trust. Moreover, the Court finds no cognizable justification for law enforcement officers to conceal their identities during their performance of routine, non-exempted law enforcement functions and interactions with the general public."

The League strongly urges your support for SJR 203.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Klein".

Barbara Klein  
Acting President LWVOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marge Easley".

Marge Easley  
Action Committee Member