



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF OREGON

March 27, 2013

To: Housed Committee on Rule
Representative Chris Garrett, Chair

Re: HJM 8 Voting Barriers SUPPORT

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, grass roots political organization that encourages informed citizen participation in government. The League believes democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know and take an active part in voting. An open government system that is representative, accountable and responsive is essential.

HJM 8 addresses the suppression that is taking place across the country towards voters and their right to participate. Barriers have been established in various ways from restrictive requirements in the registration process to closing early voting polling sites to harassment of minorities and the elderly to cutting the number of voting places, among others. Many of these actions would seem to violate both the National Voting Rights Act and the right for citizens to participate in government.

It is right and proper that Oregon protest on behalf of those being denied the opportunity to exercise their vote. The League strongly supports HJM 8 and urges you to move it forward.

Thanks you for this opportunity to comment.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robin Wisdom".

Robin Wisdom
President

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kappy Eaton".

Kappy Eaton
Governance Coordinator