



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF OREGON

April 16, 2013

To: Senate Committee on Rural Communities and Economic Development  
Senator Arnie Roblan, Chair  
Members of the Committee

Re: SB 538 – Regional Land Use: OPPOSE

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League has closely followed the current Southern Oregon Regional Pilot project authorized by Executive Order 12-07 dated May 12, 2012. You can get information about this project on this website:

<http://www.soregionalpilot.org/>

The state is investing a great deal of money (\$550,000 has been allocated to this project under the 2011-13 biennium budget) to allow three southern Oregon counties to experiment with determining if there are regional definitions for land not yet considered under current law or rule. Until that pilot has been completed it is fiscally irresponsible to move this experiment to other counties.

Except in Metro, the rest of Oregon sees itself in terms of counties, not regions. In fact, the three counties who agreed to the current pilot have struggled to work together. They are each just beginning to hold meetings of the Technical Advisory Committees (TACs)—each county having its own TAC. They need to complete their agreed upon tasks and provide the Land Conservation and Development Commission with a report on their work before the state funds additional regional planning projects.

We ask that you reject SB 538.

Sincerely,

Robin Wisdom  
President

Peggy Lynch  
Natural Resources Coordinator

cc: Richard Whitman, Governor's Natural Resources Advisor  
Jim Rue, Director of Department of Land Conservation and Development