



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF OREGON

February 28, 2013

To: Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources  
Senator Chris Edwards and Representative Ben Unger, Co-Chairs  
Members of the Committee  
([WaysandMeans.NaturalResourcesSub@state.or.us](mailto:WaysandMeans.NaturalResourcesSub@state.or.us))

Re: SB 5502 – Department of Agriculture Budget – Support Elements

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The Department of Agriculture is an important agency for our agricultural industry and for food safety. However, the League would like to focus our support on Policy Option Package 325, the water quality positions related to monitoring as included in the Governor's Proposed Budget.

The League was privileged to have a seat on the Integrated Water Resources Strategy Policy Advisory Group. We believe that gathering of scientific data and monitoring of activities related to water should be the first funded portion of implementing the Strategy. Until we have high quality scientific data, we cannot plan for future water needs for people, for industries or environmental needs. We ask for your support for data collection and monitoring included in all natural resource agency budgets.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Robin Wisdom  
President

Peggy Lynch  
Natural Resources Coordinator