



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF OREGON**

March 11, 2013

To: Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government  
Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Co-Chair  
Representative Greg Smith, Co-Chair

Re: SB 5501 – Budget for the Commission for Women - Support

The League of Women Voters (LWV) is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The LWV of the United States has a social policy position, which states that we will work to secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. In addition, support legislation that promotes social and economic justice, and the health and safety of all Americans.

The Oregon Commission for Women is tasked with a number of duties that support the League's positions. These include, but are not limited to:

- Analyze the legal status of women and men under the laws of Oregon relating to civil rights, contracts, income, property and the family in order to assure full equality and treatment under the law;
- Monitor the implementation of laws affecting the legal rights and duties of women; and
- Educate women about their legal rights and responsibilities under the law.
- Work for equal opportunity and treatment for women in employment through an analysis of the employment policies and practices of employers, both public and private.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon values the work of the Commission for Women in working on issues that promote the rights of all residents of the state. The Commission is the official voice of Oregon women in determining state policy. Because this is the only official group, it is vitally important that this important commission continue to be funded.

LWVOR requests that you fund the Oregon Commission for Women at the level proposed in the Governor's budget.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin Wisdom".

Robin Wisdom  
LWVOR President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alice M. Bartelt".

Alice Bartelt  
LWVOR Action Chair