



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF OREGON**

March 11, 2013

To: Senator Jackie Dingfelder, Chair  
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
(jennifer.lutman@state.or.us)

From: Robin Wisdom, LWVOR President  
Theresa Gibney, Natural Resources Volunteer

Re: SB 692 – **Energy Efficient Appliance Standards: SUPPORT**

The League of Women Voters is a grassroots nonpartisan, political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League has advocated for energy conservation and renewable energy since the 1970's, within the context of a broad national program urging that we avoid the depletion of natural resources and manage the interrelated aspects of air, water, land use, energy and waste management. In the last decade, the League has lobbied vigorously for energy conservation and renewable energy as primary tools for reducing the growth in greenhouse gas pollution and its contribution to global climate change. The League supports government action in the development and support of energy conservation and renewable energy sources.

Oregon's adoption of standards for energy efficiency for the common appliances listed in Senate Bill 692 is an action consistent with these League positions and with the processes that have advanced energy efficiency in many markets over the past decades.

In particular, these appliances represent markets where the majority of the West Coast market has shifted (been transformed); the market is ready for the adoption of standards.

In Oregon, statute allows the adoption of standards that have been adopted by the State of California. This ensures that manufacturers are not faced with split standards on the West Coast and that Oregon is not the dumping ground for products that no longer have a home in the California market. Further, Oregon's adoption of these energy efficiency appliance standards is a necessary first step on the way to an appropriate national standard that will simplify the supply chain for appliance manufacturers and distributors.

The appliances outlined in Senate Bill 692 have energy efficiency standards that have been adopted by California, the appliances are broadly used in our state, and the savings from Oregon's adoption of these standards is substantial. As such, Senate Bill 692 is a timely and relevant effort to conserve our natural resources.

The League of Women voters requests that Senate Bill 692 be passed out of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources with a "do pass" recommendation.