

March 13, 2013

To: House Committee on Rules

Representative Chris Garrett, Chair

Re: HB 2017, HB 2988 and HB 3175 - Voter Registration - Support

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a non-partisan grass roots, political organization that supports and encourages informed citizen participation in government. As a proponent of voting rights, the League supports efforts to enlarge the voting population of eligible citizens as proposed in the bills before you – HB 2017, HB 3988, and HB 3175.

The League supports:

- A registration process which is accessible, well-publicized, and easily understood as well as easy to implement and administer;
- Mail-in registration forms which are widely available;
- Oregon implementation of the National Voting Rights Act which includes registration process training and the designation of additional registration sites.

Each of the proposed bills addresses important registration issues. HB 2017 makes it easier for a person without state identification to update their personal information electronically. HB 2988 allows a 16 year old to register, and it is important to encourage young citizens to become involved with learning about representative government and their role in it. HB 3175 makes it easier for students to promote voter registration and encourage voter participation.

The League urges your careful consideration of these important proposals and a vote in support.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Robin Wisdom

LWVOR President

Kappy Eaton

Governance Coordinator