

February 19, 2014

To: Senate Committee on Rules

Senator Diane Rosenbaum, Chair

Re: SB 1544 Citizens Initiative Review Commission SUPPORT

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a non-partisan political organization that encourages informed citizen participation in government. The League supports the SB 1544 revisions to the Citizens Initiative Review (CIR) Commission.

Citizen participation in the CIR panels has helped to broaden Oregon voters' knowledge regarding the initiative proposals on which important decisions must be made. The panel statements are printed in the Voters Pamphlet, and the panel process has been favorably evaluated. It makes good sense to add more former panel members to do the work of the CIR Commission. Eliminating the CIR Commission sunset date provides assurance that the importance of citizen participation and initiative transparency continues.

The League strongly recommends that the committee move SB 1544 forward. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

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