

February 12, 2015

Rep. Brian Clem, Chair Members of the House Committee on Rural Communities, Land Use and Water <u>ian.davidson@state.or.us</u>

## Re: HB 2633, DLCD Rulemaking on Natural Hazards--SUPPORT

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League supports our state land use planning program with local implementation. Land use planning is about where people live, work, play, shop and how they get there.

We also have a comprehensive position adopted in 1995 on Hazards and Seismic Risks. These two positions come together as we consider how to protect Oregonians from the increasing threat of floods, landslides and other natural hazards. The state has recognized the importance of this issue by adopting Goal 7, Natural Hazards, as one of the top 10 statewide planning goals. But, with the effects of our changing climate on our landscape becoming more and more serious, it is time to work together to develop rules to guide our state and local governments as they address these serious public safety issues.

The League has testified before the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) a number of times these past few years in support of additional action related to these increasing threats. LCDC has taken some limited steps to assist coastal jurisdictions in relocating schools and in providing for storage units for life saving supplies in case of emergencies. Although considered during development of their biennial work plan, Goal 7 rulemaking has not made it to the top of the list. We ask that this Legislature assist the department by taking action to assure this work is done.

The League asks that you support HB 2633 and pass it to the full House with a strong "do pass" recommendation.

Sincerely,

Wisdom

President

Natural Resources Coordinator