



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF OREGON**

April 7, 2015

To: Senate Committee on Rules  
Senator Diane Rosenbaum, Chair  
[zoe.larmer@state.or.us](mailto:zoe.larmer@state.or.us)

RE: HB 2635, HB 2855 A, and HB 2957 A – SUPPORT

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a non-partisan, political organization which encourages informed citizen participation in government. The league recognizes that election procedures and voter information are critical elements to an informed and participating electorate. We believe the three bills before you today carry that principle forward.

HB 2635 addresses an important reality in local option tax proposals with regard to the property tax compression issue. Many voters do not realize the possibility of a lower amount of revenue than is expressed in the ballot measure because the full amount can be limited by what is available within the local government \$10 limit. This measure gives the local jurisdiction the ability to use the ballot title to inform the public about payment discounts, the collection rate, as well as compression. The League supports ballot titles that are stated in clear and concise language.

HB 2855 A deals with notification of write-in candidates regarding their nomination or election, and the House amendment clarified the issue. The bill now recognizes the use of and preference for electronic means for such notification. In today's world, this improvement makes sense.

HB 2957 A gives specifics to local election dates, and again the House amendment added clarity to the original good proposal. The League believes that elections should be conducted in a manner which encourages voter participation, and this bill provides guidance to that end. It gives both governments and citizens the ability to have certainty as to when a proposed measure will be voted on.

Each of these bills is an improvement in Oregon elections process and procedure, and we urge the committee to move them to the Senate floor with a “do pass” recommendation.

Thank you for this opportunity to advocate.

Robin Wisdom  
President

Kappy Eaton  
Governance Coordinator