



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF OREGON**

February 17, 2016

TO: Senate Committee on Business and Transportation  
Chair Senator Lee Beyer  
Vice-Chair Senator Fred Girod

Re: HB 4036A The Clean Electricity and Coal Transition Bill - **SUPPORT**

The League of Women Voters is a grassroots nonpartisan, political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. Since the 1950's, the League has been at the forefront of national efforts to protect air, land and water resources. The League's position is that members work to "Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with maximum protection of public health and the environment" with a focus on demanding pollution prevention. Additionally, the League's Social Policy is very clear: "Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice and the health and safety of all Americans."

Our testimony in support of HB 4036A is consistent with the League's national resource and social policy positions and the Oregon League's previous statements for sustainable energy priorities: "The Northwest cannot turn back to business as usual, but must whole heartily embrace new clean energy resources along with aggressive conservation and efficiency measures."

HB 4036 is a unique collaboration between the Oregon major utility providers and the environmental community to phase out coal power by 2030, to expand the renewable energy commitment to 50% by 2040, to accelerate the ability of the utility sector to meet Oregon's carbon cap reductions by 2035, and to demonstrate that decarbonizing the grid can be done effectively and affordably.

**HB 4036 and partner bill SB 1574 have the potential to place Oregon in a leadership position with a comprehensive climate policy framework to meet our state's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.** The transition away from coal to healthy, clean energy comes with multiple benefits. These include local job creation, improved air quality, public health, cost savings from stable electricity prices, and the protection of our life sustaining stable climate / planet.

**The League of Women Voters urges your support for HB 4036A. It is a healthy, economically beneficial path for future generations.**

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Norman Turrill in black ink.

Norman Turrill  
President, LWV of Oregon

Handwritten signature of Cathy Frischmann in black ink.

Cathy Frischmann  
LWVOR Climate Change Portfolio Team

Handwritten signature of Claudia Keith in black ink.

Claudia Keith