



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF OREGON**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 97-year-old grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

March 2, 2017

To: [House Revenue Committee](#)
[Chair, Representative Phil Barnhart](#)

Re: **HB 2830** – Providing for revenue raising; increases corporate excise tax rates – **SUPPORT**

The League believes that running an efficient and economical government requires adequate funding, with an equitable, stable, and flexible taxation system. Our priority this session is focusing on our state budget shortfall. We are observing your deliberations and joining you in examining this puzzle. In fact, we have been studying Oregon's taxation landscape since 1963. Oregonians are now facing program cuts, tax expenditure whittling, and yes, we expect you to be raising revenue, the T-word, taxes.

The corporate excise tax increase proposed in this bill is a modest incremental change, four-tenths of one percent. For a corporation's Oregon income, it increases from the existing 6.6% to 7%, for income up to \$1 million, with the same 0.4% bracket increase for any income over \$1 million, from 7.6% to 8%. Therefore, for an income of \$1 million, the tax goes from the current \$66,000 up to \$70,000. We submit that the proportional higher bracket increase is not overly burdensome to business.

We suggest that most businesses benefit from investing in our economy and will be willing to make this adjustment. Oregon's lifestyles, public schools and other public services can attract good employees. Moreover, reliable services can help to provide a more vigorous customer base. Oregonians will be tightening our belts this biennium. With Oregon corporate tax rates among *the* lowest in the nation, this adjustment is reasonable. We urge SUPPORT.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Handwritten signature of Norman Turrill in black ink.

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

Handwritten signature of Rebecca L. Gladstone in black ink.

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR Governance Coordinator