



**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 6, 2017

To: Senate Health Care Committee
Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson, Chair
Sen. Jeff Kruse, Vice-Chair

Re: SB 558 – Health Care for All Children - **Support**

The League of Woman Voters believe that early intervention and prevention measures are effective in helping children reach their full potential. Quality health care, including nutrition and prenatal care is included as early intervention and prevention measures.

The League supports the implementation of the Health Care for All Children Program for all eligible children residing in the state. Coverage for all children from birth is cost effective in the long term to prevent future health problems or to treat them early in the disease process. In order to reach all children below the 300% of the Federal Poverty Level, the Oregon Health Authority will be asked to evaluate and implement outreach and marketing strategies for racial, ethnic and language minorities and families with geographical barriers or homelessness.

Early screening and identification of developmental issues can lead to early intervention and treatment for physical and mental delays. Encouraging all parents to participate in county health department programs or to visit local clinics for well-baby care is desirable. Navigators in some county clinics can help bring parents in to local resources.

The League members appreciate the efforts of the OHA staff and volunteers to bring all children in for health care services. Thank you for your persistence in covering all Oregon residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Handwritten signature of Norman Turrill in cursive.

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

Handwritten signature of Karen Nibler in cursive.

Karen Nibler
LWVOR Social Policy Coordinator