



**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.

April 3, 2017

To: Senate Human Services Committee
Senator Sara Gelsler, Chair
Senator Alan Olsen, Vice-Chair

Re: SB 241 Children of Incarcerated Parents– **Support**

The League supports policies and programs at all levels of the community and government that promote the well-being, encourage the full development and ensure the safety of all children.

The League supports this bill with the -1 amendment. The establishment of a new Task Force on Children of Incarcerated Parents discourages the bill's passage due to demands on agency members. The League appreciates that the Governor's Re-entry Council will assume the review of needs and services for children of incarcerated parents. It is most appropriate because this group is already knowledgeable about the public safety system.

The rights of each child of an incarcerated parent will be put into statute for future contacts with law enforcement, justice members and incarceration facilities. It will also set a standard for visitation in facilities and in release programs. These children are at risk of future involvement in the public safety system without constructive family involvement and community 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 Karen Nibler in black ink.

Karen Nibler
LWVOR Policy Coordinator