



**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 4, 2017

To: House Committee on Human Services and Housing
Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer, Chair
Representatives Andy Olson and Tawna Sanchez, Vice Chairs

Re: HB 3373, Moneys to Help Local Governments Address Goal 10, Housing – **Modified Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon first studied land use in 1959 and has been active since in supporting our statewide land use planning program with local implementation. We participated in the rulemaking that has provided a more simplified method for expanding urban growth boundaries and in rulemaking to implement HB 4079 to provide two pilot projects for lands outside current Urban Growth Boundaries. In each case, we supported a list of activities that local governments could choose to do to increase affordable housing (link attached).

During the development of the Dept. of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) budget and in working with the Housing Alliance as they set their legislative agenda, we supported a shared staff person to help local jurisdictions implement affordable housing strategies in their land use plans and development codes. At the public hearing on SB 5572, the DLCD budget, we stated the following:

We also want to share our disappointment that the Governor's budget did not include a shared staffer between DLCD and the Housing and Community Services Department. Providing housing for everyone—especially for our low income populations, including low income workforce housing—is a top level conversation in the building this year. But the answers differ around the state. Having a staffer with an eye on both the land use planning and the “making it happen” side would be very helpful for all Oregon communities. Again, often a staffer can provide help for multiple communities, thereby stretching our limited state dollars.

We believe that, in these tight budget times, funding a shared staffer for DLCD and the Oregon Housing and Community Services agencies is the prudent choice; therefore, we ask that you **amend HB 3373 to reduce the staff request to “one half” for each agency or in some way indicate that this is a shared staffer and then forward to the appropriate Ways and Means Subcommittee for funding.**

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

Peggy Lynch
LWVOR Natural Resources Coordinator

cc: Senator Lew Frederick and Representative Brad Witt, Co-Chairs of Ways & Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources (SB 5527)

Senator Betsy Johnson and Representative David Gomberg, Co-Chairs of Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development (HB 5012)

Attached: **Table 5:** OAR 660-038-0190(5) Table of measures to accommodate housing needs within the UGB:
http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/docs/rulemaking/UGB_RAC/OAR660-038.pdf