



**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.

May 15, 2017

To: House Committee on Business and Labor
Representative Paul Holvey, Chair

Re: **HB 3060A**, Preventing Discrimination in Public Contracting, **Support**

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan grassroots organization which promotes “efforts to prevent and/or remove discrimination in education, employment and housing.” In addition, our public policy statement supports “public and private development ... of programs that emphasize the primary prevention of violence.” This bill, HB 3060A, requires companies who wish to do business with the State to have written policies and procedures in place that prohibit sexual harassment, assault and discrimination, addresses both of these issues.

What we hear in the news suggests that harassment and discrimination are on the increase. In fact, data from the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission demonstrates that this perception is REAL. Oregon saw an increase of over 30% from 2015 to 2016 in the number of complaints filed.

The State of Oregon works hard to have clear, written guidelines prohibiting discrimination and harassment. Employees and supervisors in state government know and understand the rules. It is only appropriate that, when public dollars are being spent, all employees and employers have policies, procedures and remedies prohibiting sexual harassment and discrimination clearly stated and understood.

HB 3060A makes it absolutely clear that private businesses who hold contracts with the State, who want taxpayer dollars, must take reasonable steps to prohibit sexual harassment, sexual assault and discrimination, thus making the workplace safer for ALL Oregonians.

We urge you to support HB 3060A.

Handwritten signature of Norman Turrill in blue ink.

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

Handwritten signature of Debbie Runciman in blue ink.

Debbie Runciman
LWVOR Women's Issues Coordinator