



**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.

February 5, 2018

To: House Health Care Committee
Representative Mitch Greenlick, Chair
Representative Rob Nosse, Vice Chair
Representative Cedric Hayden, Vice-Chair

Re: [HJR 203](#) – Proposes amendment to provide health care for all – **Comments**

The League of Women Voters has a national position to promote a health care system that provides access to a basic level of quality care for all residents and controls health care costs.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon has many members who are adamant supporters of health care for all. Congress has not yet approved the health care for all program at the federal level nor has it approved the funding to cover all residents. Oregon has been fortunate to get approval for Medicaid funding and insurance subsidies for low income residents under the Affordable Care Act. However, at this time there is no federal funding available for expansion of health care to residents above the low income level.

The League cannot support an amendment for health care as a right because there is an implied state responsibility to provide the health care for all residents. This would commit the State of Oregon to expand funding to include health care coverage for all without the federal partnership. The State of Oregon has insufficient income to support its current responsibilities and cannot provide the added cost of health care coverage for all its residents at this time.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon believes that Health Care for All is an avidly held ideal for the future. Many more federal and state responsibilities for health care services will have to be developed before health care for all becomes a reality.

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 Social Policy Coordinator