



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF OREGON**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 98-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 9, 2018

To: House Committee on Transportation Policy
Representative Susan McLain, Chair

Re: [HB 4092](#) – New standards for expansion of state airport – **Oppose**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon has long-standing positions in support of our statewide land use planning program with local implementation. We believe that the state should have the primary responsibility for establishing the broad framework of planning goals and for coordinating comprehensive land use plans, but the implementation of these plans must include a review by local government and opportunities for citizen input. We oppose HB 4092, which establishes new standards for the expansion of a state airport on land zoned for exclusive farm use. We object on the basis that these new standards bypass the normal Goal 14 exemption process for development of EFU land, a process that includes analyses of the availability of air, land, energy, and water resources, as well as a mechanism for fulfilling Goal 1, Citizen Involvement.

This legislation was crafted for the benefit of one airport—Aurora State Airport, located in Marion County just south of the Clackamas County line. Surrounding areas, particularly those in Clackamas County and the neighboring city of Wilsonville, will be significantly impacted, not only by a runway expansion, but by the proposed expansion of support facilities surrounding the airport. Increased traffic and noise are major concerns. The Aurora State Airport Master Plan was adopted with the understanding that subsequent changes to state law would need to go through the proper land use planning process in the localities most affected by those provisions. It was not anticipated that developers would seek legislative approval to bypass this required step. It is critical that *all* neighboring local governments have the opportunity for land use review of new provisions, and that citizens be allowed to express their views in a local land use setting.

HB 4092 is a “one-off” exception to both the statewide and local processes and sets a dangerous precedent. The League has testified against these exceptions many times in the past, and we continue to believe that the Legislature should not be used as a fast-track path for those who wish to bypass established land use processes.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Handwritten signature of Norman Turrill in black ink.

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

Handwritten signature of Marge Easley in black ink.

Marge Easley
LWVOR Action Committee