



The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 99-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.

March 4, 2019

To: [House Committee on Education](#)
Chair Representative Margaret Doherty
Vice-Chair Representative Teresa Alonso Leon
Vice-Chair Representative Cheri Helt
hed.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

[Joint Committee on Student Success](#)
Co-Chair Senator Arnie Roblan
Co-Chair Representative Barbara Smith Warner
[jcss exhibit email](#)

[Student Success Subcommittee on Early Childhood Education](#)
Co-Chair Senator Lew Frederick
Co-Chair Representative John Lively

Re: [HB 2897](#) – establishes **Early Childhood Equity Fund** for culturally specific early learning, early childhood, and parent support programs. – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon believes that the early years of a child's life are crucial in building the foundation for educational attainment and greatly impact success or failure in later life. Early intervention and prevention measures are effective in helping children reach their full potential. The League supports policies, programs, and funding at all levels of the community and government that promote the well-being, encourage the full development, and ensure the safety of all children.

LWVOR supports [HB 2897](#) to provide outreach, support, and resources to children and families that are underserved by existing programs in this state; **children and families who are at risk because of any combination of two or more factors, including their race, ethnicity, English language proficiency, socioeconomic status and geographic location. We know that early-intervention programs and those targeted to the most at-risk during the early years pay dividends throughout their lives.**

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

Chris Vogel
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LWVOR Legislative Action