



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of Deschutes County

The League of Women Voters of Deschutes County is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy.

March 2, 2019

To: Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction
Co-Chair Senator Michael Dembrow
Co-Chair Representative Karin Power

Email: jccr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: HB 2020 – Clean Energy Jobs Bill – SUPPORT

The League of Women Voters of Deschutes County supports HB 2020. Our national position on the environment includes this statement to “Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with maximum protection of public health and the environment.” The position also “supports a set of climate assessment criteria that ensures that energy policies align with current climate science.”

We have been working locally and nationally on efforts to protect air, land and water resources. Additionally, LWV of Oregon and US jointly have amici standing with Our Children’s Trust, ‘Juliana v US Gov’ active federal lawsuit. We support HB 2020 because we owe this to our children!

An independent economic study presented to the legislature in 2019 shows HB 2020 will benefit our economy. It will add to household income across all tax brackets, with the most going to low income households because it will create thousands of good-paying jobs and the transition to cleaner energy will lower costs for people and businesses.

Clean is cool! Investing in clean energy solutions results in savings for middle and lower income families on utilities in energy efficient homes and improves affordability of housing. LWV of Deschutes County has a position on affordable housing stating support of the “concept of

development with housing located in proximity to transportation, employment, shopping, educational and recreational opportunities.” This will be accomplished through reinvesting millions in proceeds from Clean Energy Jobs into energy efficient homes, transportation options and clean power. Imagine families on a tight budget not having huge home heating and cooling expenses on top of rent, insurance, etc. And breadwinners will have opportunities for well-paying jobs created in the clean energy sector, a job they can be proud of.

Other issues important to Deschutes County that HB 2020 policy framework addresses through a GHG cap, price and invest program include:

- ensuring fairness by assisting and investing in disadvantaged and rural communities
- reduces Oregon’s risk of drought and record-breaking wildfires
- safeguarding our agriculture, tourism and fisheries industries

The League of Women Voters of Deschutes County strongly recommends the passing of HB 2020 Clean Energy Jobs Bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.



Geri Hauser

Public Relations Chair

League of Women Voters of Deschutes County

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