



The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 100-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 10, 2020

To: [Senate Judiciary Committee](#)
Senator Prozanski, Chair

Re: [SB 1575](#) - Fitness to Proceed - **Support**

The League has adopted a policy on Adult Mental Health which supports an adult mental health civil commitment process which, provides for adequate and equitable investigation and examination. The League is currently concerned about the Oregon State Hospital population and need for additional beds and recovery services.

This bill sets process on evaluations in Aid and Assist cases, discharges, service delivery to return to the community or civil commitments. These are essential measures to maintain the hospital primarily as a mental health treatment facility. The predominant population of civilly committed patients remain until they regain mental health and may be released to a lower level of care in the community.

The League believes that the Oregon State Hospital should be reserved for those who need a hospital level of care and funding for Community Mental Health should be increased to evaluate Aid and Assist patients and treat them in the community if possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca L. Gladstone".

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Nibler".

Karen Nibler
Social Policy Coordinator