



The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 101-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 30, 2021

To: [Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation](#)
Committee Chair, Sen. Floyd Prozanski

Re: [SB 778 -1](#) – New Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement – **Support**

[In 2020 LWVOR and LWVUS passed](#) the following resolution at their council and convention.

'Be it resolved the League of Women Voters reaffirms our commitment to Immigration reform: laws that provide efficient, expeditious systems for immigrants to enter the United States. The League stands in solidarity with immigrants and our partners in the immigrant rights community. Congress must take immediate action to pass common sense, fair immigration policies that end the crisis at our borders, end the separation of families, ensure their health and safety, and provide a clear path to citizenship which includes the DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) young people'.

In addition, in June 2020, LWV U.S. voted to support EDI (equity, diversity and inclusion) work internal to the League and across all public and private sectors and LWV Oregon provided at LWVUS convention an education caucus ['Climate Migration, Immigration and Human Rights: What You Need to Know! - LWVUS Convention 2020](#).

The League agrees an Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement reporting to the governor would be an effective way to manage a statewide immigrant and refugee integration strategy. Many states have or are in the process of improving their efficacy in this area. A recent report from [NCSL on immigration](#) speaks to this topic. The recent [-1 amendment](#) estimates this biennium expense to be \$1M.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss SB 778-1 and we urge your favorable consideration of it.

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

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claudia Escobar Keith".

Claudia Escobar Keith
LWVOR Immigration & Refugee Portfolio

Cc: Chief Bill Sponsors:

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