



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.

February 17, 2021

To: [Rep Karin Power](#), Chair
[House Committee On Judiciary House Subcommittee On Civil Law](#)

Re: [HB 2459](#) – Video Conference recording privacy – **Support**

HB 2459 would update statute definitions “applicable to obtaining contents of communications” to align the privacy expectations of video conferencing with other recordable conversation definitions in ORS 165.535. The League supports this protection, to prohibit recording private video conferences without participants’ permission, and failing that, providing for recourse. Note, the bill addresses separately. We address special concerns for law enforcement recordings in our study, and they are distinguished from the video conferences or private calls covered by this bill, which would include these legislative hearings.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon has a new advocacy position adopted in January 2021, based on the LWVOR study: [Privacy and Cybersecurity Today](#). Several position concepts are relevant:

- People should be informed about personal information being collected, and why.
- Expand personal information privacy definitions to address rapidly changing information and communication technologies.
- Regulate categories of information in the same way.
- Apply strong cybersecurity protections with effective deterrents to assure information integrity.
- All information (including third-party data transfers) needs sufficiently flexible protections to address emerging technologies, serving the common good by balancing stakeholders and vested interests’ demands.
- Assure that personal information collection, use, transfer and disclosure for economic or societal purposes is consistent with the purpose for which individuals provide their data, and does not cause them harm.

Meeting virtually is changing our culture quickly. The convenience of remote meeting programs like ZOOM, Microsoft Teams, and Google Hangouts, has vastly expanded our ability to network. That will likely persist after pandemic distancing needs subside. We learned in our study that consumers have common privacy assumptions that evolving technologies may challenge. Cybersecurity education, to comprehend the reach and permanence of digital information collection, and protection are needed.

We urge your support of HB 2459. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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