

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 102-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 3, 2022

To: Senate Committee On Education

Chair Sen. Dembrow, Vice-Chair Sen. Thomsen, and members of the Committee

Re: SB 1521 – School Board Superintendent terminations – SUPPORT

This bill addresses authorizing district school boards to terminate superintendents without cause only if certain conditions are met. It prohibits district school boards from taking specified actions against superintendents when the superintendent is acting in compliance with state or federal law.

LWVUS supports efforts to secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all, to promote social and economic justice and the health and safety of all Americans and equal rights for all under state and federal law regardless of race, color gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability. LWV is fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

School boards are elected to be respectful of the law, as well as the health, safety, and equal rights of their community. SB 1521 is a necessary law that will make this clear: Superintendents cannot be terminated by an elected school board without cause, when they are following state or federal law.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Rebecca Gladstone

Repens L. Gladstone

President LWVOR

Anne Nesse

Education Portfolio

Anne L. Nesse