



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 Judiciary And Ballot Measure 110 Implementation](#)
[Senator Floyd Prozanski](#), Chair
Members of the Committee

Re: [SB 1510-1](#) – Justice Reinvestment - **Support**

In 2020 at convention the League of Women Voters of U.S acknowledged and addressed the following shared statements: *‘The demonstrations since the police killing of George Floyd have underscored the importance of the League of Women Voters’ work in policing practices and criminal justice reform. On May 29, 2020, LWV of the U.S. called for justice for “those who have lost their lives or been harmed, mentally or physically, as a result of America’s pervasive culture of anti-blackness”:* ... *“The League acknowledges, painfully, that America is a nation founded on racism. Therefore, all who live in this country must contribute to and participate in organizations actively working to achieve full liberation and inclusive freedom. We [must all advocate for anti-racist policies at every level of government.](#)”*

Transforming Justice, SB 1510, is about reducing racial disparities and ensuring that the harm caused by our systems are making headway toward real solutions. All Oregonians need to feel safe by the law enforcement meant to protect us; we need to reduce racial and other minority disparities in traffic stops, improve success for people in probation and invest in communities to address racial/cultural disparities in the criminal justice system.

SB 1510 creates a justice reinvestment equity program to address racial disparities prevalent in Oregon’s criminal justice system and reduce prison use. Access to healing and treatment is an essential part of reducing recidivism rates and ensuring that we are managing the problem differently. By improving how law enforcement funding is prioritized many communities across Oregon will have better access to the resources they need to begin to feel safe, heal, and rebuild their lives. There are Oregon communities that suffer inequitably from interactions with law enforcement and are most underserved by our systems of courts, education, transportation, health providers and victim services.

SB 1510 Fiscal: Provides to Oregon Criminal Justice Commission Equity Program \$10M 2023 biennium funding for distribution to culturally specific organizations and culturally responsive service providers.

Please support and fund fully SB 1510 legislation to transform our justice system aligned with Oregonians’ vision for a public safety system rooted in equity, accountability, healing, opportunity, where everyone is treated with dignity.

The League appreciates this opportunity to advocate for transformational justice practices.

Handwritten signature of Rebecca Gladstone in black ink.

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President

Handwritten signature of Claudia Keith in black ink.

Claudia Keith
Social Policy Portfolio