



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 7, 2022

To: [House Environment and Natural Resources Committee](#)
[Representative Pam Marsh](#), Chair

Re: [HB 4059](#) - Large-project labor standards – **Support**

Because the League of Women Voters of Oregon believes that climate change is a serious threat facing our nation and planet, LWVOR supports climate goals and policies that are consistent with the best available climate science and that will ensure a stable climate system for future generations. The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports a just transition to the dependence on renewable energy.

The League strongly supported HB 2021 (2021). We recognize that any complex bill will probably require some fixes, and that this is one of the reasons for having a short session. The fact that this bill is so short demonstrates the effectiveness of the long session.

We approve of the change from “area wage” to “prevailing wage”, which will make it easier to determine if the requirement is met. We also recognize the need to clarify that the labor standards do not apply to projects on tribal lands unless the tribal government elects to adopt them.

We are especially supportive of lowering the capacity rating for requiring projects to implement a registered apprenticeship program, while leaving the capacity rating at 10 megawatts for other workers. It is recognized that as renewable energy projects become more common, the need for trained workers will increase significantly. Requiring apprenticeship programs for the smaller projects will lead to more people being able to participate who live in rural or other underrepresented areas and will help them qualify for permanent jobs on larger projects with the strict labor standards. We recognize that it may not always be possible to find sufficient participants for the apprenticeship programs, so have no objection to the good faith provisions included in the bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Handwritten signature of Rebecca Gladstone in black ink.

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President

Handwritten signature of Claudia Keith in black ink.

Claudia Keith
Climate Emergency Coordinator

Handwritten signature of Kathy Moyd in black ink.

Kathy Moyd
Climate Emergency Portfolio