



*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 11, 2022**

**To:** [Joint Committee On Information Management and Technology](#)  
[Sen Rachel Armitage](#) and Rep [Nancy Nathanson](#), Co-Chairs  
**Re:** [HB 4155](#) – Cybersecurity omnibus bill – **Support**

The League supports HB 4155, a critical cybersecurity omnibus bill outlining urgent, ongoing collaboration to address Oregon’s increasing cybersecurity threats. See the LWVOR [Privacy and Cybersecurity study and materials](#), relevant for both advocacy and understanding.

We don’t need technical expertise to understand that cyber-attacks choose the most vulnerable targets. The committee’s two-factor authentication reference may be inaccessible jargon. Imagine--

**Help! My laptop froze with a ransomware kidnap note! Call IT - Wait, we don’t have IT staff.** Oregon’s IT Staff shortage is estimated at between 4,000 to 5,000.

**So, hire somebody!** Where are they? They’re in short supply *and* high demand. We need to pay more.

**Train more IT staff!** This bill expands Oregon’s training pipeline, including scholarship provisions, like the certification fee coverage for graduates burdened by student loans.

**Recruit more students!** We laud higher ED collaboration for a diverse pipeline. Middle school is when gender exclusion hits. One [SB 1519](#) testifier for K-12 computer science curriculum mentioned that none of her three middle school kids had seen computer science curriculum yet. K-12 schools are included.

**But our green screens are outdated!** Vendors press us to buy for security updates. We really can’t afford to ignore those. Sometimes aging staff (retiring soon!) are the only ones who can patch and mask trouble, to maintain outdated machines and software. We need to pay attention and support updates.

This bill would directly provide goods, services and education to local governments, special districts, educational service districts, K-12 schools, and libraries. We’d all benefit with solutions through:

- The Oregon Cybersecurity Advisory Council
- The Oregon Cybersecurity Center of Excellence
- The Oregon Cybersecurity Workforce Development Fund
- The Oregon Cybersecurity Public Awareness Fund

Cybersecurity just hasn’t competed well in W&Ms. Homelessness, wildfires, and safe elections all actually need good tech support, too. This week’s revenue forecast shows that now is the time for Oregon to lead in cybersecurity. Please consider, actual fiscal needs are far greater than this bill’s requests.

We strongly urge passage of HB 4155.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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