

The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a 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.

January 23, 2023

To: Senator Sara Gelser Blouin, Chair

Senate Committee on Human Services

Re: <u>SB 420</u> – Relating to Traumatic Brain Injury and Advisory Committee – Support

This bill states that the Department of Human Services will provide expanded care for individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) including service coordination, resource facilitation, advocacy and options counseling. We believe this bill aligns with the League of Women Voters priorities by meeting basic human rights. Over 50% of current previously housed individuals have had previous traumatic brain injury and Oregon is one of only 11 states without Resource Navigation for this disease process.

This bill will help provide appropriate health care, residential placements and other services. These services and advocacy are key to prevent further victimization, homelessness and criminalization of this population.

This bill will also set up an advisory council to oversee these services to include people with previous head trauma.

We urge your support for SB 420.

Repen L. Hadstone

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Rebecca Gladstone President LWVOR Christa Danielson Health Care

Christo Daniela