

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.

February 3, 2023

To: Rep Ken Helm, Chair, Vice Chairs Hartman and Owens, Members of the Committee House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water Halnrw.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: <u>HB 2813</u> – Safe and Secure Drinking Water – **SUPPORT**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon has studied water quality and quantity since the 1960s. We believe "that water is a resource that should be managed for the benefit of the pubic and as sustainable habitat for all life forms." We have a statutory seat on the Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Advisory Committee. And participated most recently in the HB 5006 (2021) Work Group where a broad group of Oregonians discussed the many issues around Oregon's water. With that background, we are pleased to support HB 2813.

We look forward to following anticipated amendments, but most of all, we look forward to seeing the heart of this bill pass this legislative session. We know that there are opportunities this session to gain access to federal funds, yet we also recognize the need for the State of Oregon to provide matching funds so needed projects can access these federal funds.

Heggy Lynch

Thank you for considering this legislation. Oregonians all over the state will also thank you.

Rebecca Gladstone Peggy Lynch

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LWVOR President Natural Resources Coordinator