

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 2nd, 2023

To: Senator Kate Lieber, Chair

Senate Rules Committee

Re: SCR 1 - Support of County Clerks and Local Election Officials – Support

The League supports Senate Joint Resolution 1. As we <u>testified last spring</u> to HB 4144, we believe voting is a fundamental citizen right, including protection from harassment and intimidation. We advocate for this protection for all involved in the voting process, including and especially in this context, our County Clerks and all elections workers.

We join others in urging, from SCR 1:

"members of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly, condemn, in the strongest possible terms, violence and threats of violence against election workers, and we call on all leaders to denounce these dangerous occurrences; and be it further Resolved, That we applied the Oregon Association of County Clerks and all election workers for their professionalism and dedication to upholding fair and safe elections."

We respectfully repeat urging during this 2023 session, as we urged last spring:

"...protecting anyone subject to harassment, candidates, lawful protesters, public servants, and volunteers. Include "Public servant", in ORS 244.020: A public official, advisor, consultant or assistant at the request or direction of the state, person nominated, elected or appointed although not yet occupying the position; and Jurors."

We urge your Support for SCR 1. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Rebecca Gladstone LWVOR President

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