



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.

March 7, 2023

To: **Senator Lieber, Chair, and Members of the Committee**
Senate Rules Committee

Re: **HB 2112 Engrossed A** – Update and align public records terms – **Support**

HB 2112 clarifies public records statute to include **fiscal, tribal cultural, historical or research**, also correcting numerous outdated technical references. LWVUS calls for us to work together to influence public policy, using a DEI lens, for diversity, equity, and inclusion, for all League work. Updating and correcting statute for understandable, relevant content increases transparency and access, as called for in our cybersecurity position. We support government efficiency and urge for participation in government, both served by this bill, which also eliminates obsolete technical references, for example to videotapes, and acknowledges the value of research, among other updates.

The LWVOR supports recognizing our tribes and the importance of archival holdings representing their cultural and historical heritage. We support increasing public awareness of our cultural heritage and recognize efforts of the Governor's Task Force on Tribal Cultural Items, furthered here through this State Archives bill. Day to day processing of public records can be easier, from making the records easier to identify, using plain language, to accessing and delivering them, by updating their descriptions.

The League supports efficiency in government. Administering retention is a central public records management concern, weighing administrative, legal, fiscal, and historical values. Defining public records retention limits is critical now with exponential data accumulation challenging capacity for storage, retention, and security. This bill can help to preserve important records and make them easier to find and share. Retention used to call for destroying archeological records after seven years, a grievous loss. Now retention will consider the long-term cultural and historical retention value, already requiring a Tribal Liaison.

We urge your Support for HB 2112.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca L. Gladstone". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Rebecca Gladstone
President LWVOR