



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 10, 2023

To: Chair Sen. Dembrow, Vice-Chair Sen. Weber and [Members of the Senate Education Committee](#)

Re: [SB 854](#) – Requires each school district to develop written plan for climate change instruction – **Support**

It is the position of the League of Women Voters of the US that our state and local Leagues, as well as individual LWV members, have a critical role to play in helping to limit future climate change and protect the planet. We call for prompt action to cut this country's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and invest in a clean energy economy.

These are the issues related to the bill as we see them now. The professional teachers of Oregon already have regional and national choices of curriculum on climate change, and its solutions, available to them. The Legislature simply needs to allow teachers to use these curriculum resources and design new curriculum for some unique regional locations as well. These curriculum choices cover a broad range of subject matters and can be applied within the existing curriculum, including: sustainability, climate science and greenhouse gas emissions, sequestration of carbon, and renewable generation of power. Incorporating science as a part of history, music, art, and language arts is fundamental. This knowledge of our planet is fundamental to the health of our planet and our survival on it.

As the knowledge of the student broadens, career choices for our next generation of Oregonians will be broadened as well, thus giving our youth the confidence to meet the future with a stronger sense of purpose. University training centers for educators can be prepared at the college level as well, using the data in peer-reviewed scientific websites, books, and current literature such as [Project Drawdown](#).

We urge your Support for SB 854. This is the obvious path we must take in honor of our children and grandchildren, who will inherit the problems we have left behind.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss what we believe should be a nonpartisan issue.

Handwritten signature of Rebecca Gladstone in black ink.

Rebecca Gladstone
President LWVOR

Handwritten signature of Anne Nesse in black ink.

Anne Nesse
Education and Climate Science