



The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 103-year-old 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 14, 2023

To: Representative Jason Kropf, Chair, [House Committee on Judiciary](#)

Re: [HB 2345](#) – Reducing days in segregated housing for adults in custody – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports the -1 amendment of HB 2345 based on our social justice position that all individuals, whether incarcerated or not, deserve a healthy and safe environment. We believe that reducing the maximum number of days an adult in custody may be in segregated housing not only benefits the mental and physical health of those directly impacted but positively impacts the wellbeing of the correctional institution as a whole.

We have no opinion as to whether 14 days should be set as the maximum length of time in segregated housing, but we urge the Department of Corrections to favor an individualistic approach and to use the best available mental health research when making that determination.

We want to take this opportunity to commend the Department of Corrections for taking positive steps since 2015 to reform Special Housing policies in partnership with Disability Rights Oregon, the Vera Institute of Justice, the Norwegian Correctional Service, and the UC San Francisco's Amend Program. We are fully behind the goals set forth in "The Oregon Way" and to any ongoing efforts to humanize the prison environment that are consistent with the 2015 United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

We urge passage of HB 2345 and thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Becky Gladstone".

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marge Easley".

Marge Easley
LWVOR Action Committee