



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 15, 2024

To: **Representative Pam Marsh, Chair**
House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment

Re: **HB 4112** – Clean Technology Leadership Bill – **Support**

Referred to as the Clean Technology Leadership Bill, HB 4112 has tremendous potential to serve as a formidable tool for fighting climate change while providing economic benefit to Oregonians. The bill, if passed, would set Oregon on a path to expand clean technology manufacturing in Oregon, increase sustained local economic growth and create family-wage jobs in clean energy technology across the state.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) strongly supports the passage of HB 4112 because the bill espouses goals and policies that are consistent with League policy to monitor and follow the best available climate science, in this case clean energy technology. Since the 1990s, the League has dependably supported climate goals and policies that are consistent with the best available climate science and that will ensure a stable climate system for future generations.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon endorses HB 4112, which puts a policy in place that will enable Oregonian entrepreneurs to build businesses based on the latest technologies in renewable energy, will make sure State purchasing is equitable and focused on renewables, and will create a council to help the industry chart a course for success. At the same time, this could promote an equitable lens to hiring and training for new climate tech careers.

Manufacturers of electrolyzers, solar panels, and other clean energy technology equipment don't currently exist in large numbers. This presents an opportunity to flourish in a wide-open field where innovation thrives. With good leadership provided by this bill, Oregon is poised to develop and deliver clean energy technologies to the many customers who will need them. Oregon businesses helped by the proposed incentives will enjoy increasing demand for their products.

HB 4112 would also create a \$20 million fund to support expansion of in-state clean energy technology industries. This fund could secure a match up to 40 times larger for Oregon, from the \$60 billion currently available Federal Inflation Reduction Act funds.

We urge the Committee to seize this opportunity by approving HB 4112.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Rebecca Gladstone
President LWVOR

Claudia Keith
Climate Emergency Coordinator

Arlene Sherrett
Climate Emergency Associate

Cc: **Representative Bynum, Senator Meek, Representative Levy E, Andersen, Sosa, Senator Sollman**