



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 5, 2024

To: Rep. Maxine Dexter, Chair, Reps. Vicki Breese-Iverson and Mark Gamba, Vice Chairs
Members of the [House Committee on Housing and Homelessness](#)

Re: [HB 4134](#) – Grants to Cities to Support Housing – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon has positions on our land use planning program which includes Goals 11 (Public Facilities) and 14 (Urbanization), on housing for all and on governmental responsibilities. It is with these multiple positions that we support this targeted legislation to fund specific infrastructure projects in ten cities of 50,000 or less around Oregon.

The League has provided testimony in past sessions noting the importance of infrastructure to unlock lands within cities and their current urban growth boundaries so that housing for Oregonians with 130% AMI (area median income) or less can be built. With the limited revenue that Oregon cities receive under our current property tax system, it is important for the state and federal government to help provide monies for this important need.

HB 4134 provides a specific list of cities with known projects that, under the bill, would need to meet a variety of criteria in order to access the monies. In return, the property owner of the defined development will construct a certain number of housing units within a specific timeline.

During the Governor's tour of Oregon counties, she has reported hearing of the need for housing in every corner of the state. HB 4134 will begin to address that need. We thank the Chief Sponsors for their outreach to Oregon cities to develop this list of projects in order to begin to address Oregon's housing needs.

We urge your Support for HB 4134.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca L. Gladstone".

Rebecca Gladstone
Co-President LWVOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peggy Lynch".

Peggy Lynch
Natural Resources Coordinator