



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 27, 2025

To: [Representative Thuy Tran](#), Chair, [House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans](#)

Re: [HB 2151](#) – Seismic Risk Fund – **Support**

LWVOR has strong positions on air quality, land use, water quality, protecting our coastal resources, public health, and climate change. LWVOR believes that all levels of government share the responsibility of coordinating, implementing and funding an effective program to mitigate Oregon’s earthquake and tsunami hazards. Priority must be given to mitigation that protects human life and safeguards critical life-support systems. When siting critical facilities, seismic factors such as severe ground shaking, liquefaction, massive landslide potential, and subsidence should be considered. LWVOR has been working on seismic issues since 1995. In 2022, the Oregon League endorsed [SB 1567](#) which created the Seismic Risk Mitigation Fund, separate from the general fund, to support seismic risk assessments and reviews, and to provide grants and other assistance to facility owners in the Critical Energy Infrastructure (CEI) Hub. However, the Fund had limited scope and could not be used for purposes now thought to be useful for disaster prevention and resilience.

LWVOR supports HB 2151’s expansion of the permitted purposes for which monies in the Seismic Risk Mitigation Fund may be spent. The additional purposes align with the goal of energy resilience after an earthquake and will enable monies from the Fund to support activities of state and local government agencies, businesses, or individuals to prepare for the consequences of an earthquake.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. We urge your support for the Seismic Risk Fund bill.

Barbara Klein  
Acting President LWVOR

Claudia Keith  
Climate Emergency Coordinator

Laura Rogers  
Critical Energy Infrastructure

Nikki Mandell  
Critical Energy Infrastructure

Cc: [Rep. Dacia Grayber](#), [Rep. Rick Lewis](#), [Rep. Court Boice](#), [Rep. Paul Evans](#),  
[Rep. Alek Skarlatos](#), [Rep. Mari Wanatanbe](#)