



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.

Feb. 3, 2026

To: [Senator Lew Frederick](#), Chair, and [Senator Suzanne Weber](#), Vice Chair,
And Members of the [Senate Committee on Education](#)

Re: [SB 1538](#) – Admitting Immigrants to Schools and Programs – **Support**

This bill prohibits discrimination in education related to immigration or citizenship status and requires districts to base these policies on models prepared by the Attorney General. The League of Women Voters of Oregon strongly supports this bill based on our position that the government has the responsibility to provide equality of opportunity for education.

Based on the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, in 1982, the Supreme Court ruled in *Plyler v. Doe* that states cannot constitutionally deny students a free public education based on their immigration status.

Immigrants – whether or not they are citizens - deserve an education in the United States which is equal to that of citizens. In 2023, Oregon’s immigrants paid \$2.1 billion in state and local taxes which helped fund this basic right.

It is essential that immigrant children learn how to communicate, live, and succeed in our society.

Further, we support that schools use policy models provided by Oregon’s Attorney General. Based on recent lawsuits, it is evident to us that the Attorney General has a firm grasp on immigration law.

We urge your support for SB1538.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Klein".

Barbara Klein
Acting President LWVOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jean W. Pierce".

Jean Pierce
Action Chair