



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF OREGON**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 97-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.

February 5, 2018

To: [House Committee on Early Childhood and Family Supports](#)

Representative John Lively, Chair

Email: hecfs.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: [HB 4067](#) – Expands definition of "child with a disability" for special education - **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon believes that the early years of a child's life are crucial in building the foundation for educational attainment and greatly impact success or failure in later life. Early intervention and prevention measures are effective in helping children reach their full potential. The League supports policies, programs, and funding at all levels of the community and government that promote the well-being, encourage the full development, and ensure the safety of all children. These include comprehensive services for children with developmental and cognitive disabilities.

LWVOR supports HB 4067. We support services to those meeting the definition and who are under 10 years of age: "Developmental delay" means delay, at a level of functioning and in accordance with criteria established by rules of the State Board of Education, in one or more of the following developmental areas: cognitive development; physical development, including vision and hearing; communication development; social or emotional development; or adaptive development; or a disability, in accordance with criteria established by rules of the State Board of Education, that can be expected to continue indefinitely and is likely to cause a substantial delay in a child's development and ability to function independently in society.

By clarifying this definition, children who have received Early Learning intervention services shall bridge seamlessly into K-12 services without the burden of extensive paperwork and have continuity of service.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Handwritten signature of Norman Turrill in black ink.

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

Handwritten signature of Christine M. Vogel in black ink.

Chris Vogel
Education Policy Coordinator,
LWVOR Legislative Action