



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF OREGON

Legislative Report

February 19, 2015

Volume 25, Number 1

2015 Legislative Session

In This Issue

[NATURAL
RESOURCES](#)

[SOCIAL POLICY](#)

[GOVERNANCE](#)

**Printer-Friendly
Version**



[LWVOR UPDATES
HEALTH CARE
PAYER STATEMENT
\(click here\)](#)

[Quick Links to
OLIS](#)

[OR State Legislature](#)

[Legislative Audio and
Video](#)

[View the Bills](#)

[Find & Contact your
State Senator and
Representative](#)

[League Links](#)

[LWVOR Action Team](#)

[LWV of Oregon](#)

[LWV of the US](#)

Welcome to the First Edition of the Legislative Report 2015

The 78th Oregon Legislative Session began February 2, with swearing in on January 12. Our Action coordinators worked behind the scenes making contacts and gathering information prior to the actual start of the session. This preparation enabled the coordinators to focus in on specific legislation which they will follow and possibly testify on.



Alice Bartelt,
Action Committee
Chair

The Action coordinators want to share and prepare you, our readers, for the coming session as well. This report includes a glimpse of what to expect from this session. Our coordinators are:

Public Access, Paula Krane, kranep@peak.org
[Governance](#), Kappy Eaton, gopher44@comcast.net
[Natural Resources](#), Peggy Lynch, zuludar@aol.com
[Social Policy](#), Karen Nibler, niblerk@comcast.net
and me, Action Chair, Alice Bartelt, a.bartelt@lwvor.org

As you read each coordinator's report, you will realize what a huge task they take on. Not only do they follow bills but they attend committee meetings, meet with legislators and agencies, and work with other organizations. They work around the clock for the full session. Our committee has been augmented by a number of members who will follow specific areas. We thank these members for their commitment. But, **more help is needed.**

If you have any interest in being where the action is for advocacy, please contact one of the coordinators. If you can follow one committee, one issue, or one bill, you will give the League of Women Voters a stronger voice for advocacy and for Oregonians.

Please participate by reading the Legislative Report and taking action when you can. Thank you for your continued support.

[Back to Top](#)

Natural Resources

Join Our
Mailing List

LWV
Testimony



Follow Us



Like Us

Legislative budget writers want the revenue committees to squeeze \$64 million worth of expiring Oregon tax credits in \$14 million made available on their budget framework for the next two years.

[Click here to read Portland Tribune Article.](#)

**From LWVUS:
UPDATE**

[Meeting Basic Human Needs Position](#)

Oregon State Legislature - 1,739 Measures have been Introduced.

Clean Fuel and Natural Resource Budgets

The 2015 session is already 2 weeks in and your Natural Resources volunteers have already provided [testimony](#) in support of Clean Fuels ([SB 324](#)-thanks to Claudia Keith), and it has passed the senate. [Please tell your Representative to vote in support of this important climate bill.](#)



Peggy Lynch, Natural Resources Coordinator

We also testified on the budgets for the Dept. of Geology and Minerals Industries ([DOGAMI-SB 5512](#)-with [written testimony](#)), Oregon Marine Board ([SB 5522](#) with oral testimony) and the Land Use Board of Appeals ([HB 5028](#)-with [written testimony](#)). Linked to the [DOGAMI testimony](#) is our support of [HB 2633](#)-with [written testimony](#), a bill that would require the Department of Land Use and Conservation (DLCD) to make rules addressing Goal 7, Natural Hazards, so that there are clear guidelines to local jurisdictions addressing such things as flooding, landslides, earthquakes and other hazards.

Aerial Pesticide Spray

An aerial pesticide spray bill has been filed ([SB 613](#)) to establish no-spray buffers around residential dwellings and schools, as well as enhanced buffers to protect drinking water systems, fish-bearing streams and their tributaries, municipal drinking watersheds, wetlands, and State Scenic Waterways; create an advance notification system that would allow members of the public to receive notice about the date and time of a spray, and the herbicides and/or pesticides that will be used; require the Oregon Department of Forestry to make public, via a web site, reports regarding what chemicals were used, in what quantity, where they were sprayed, and information on the weather conditions at the time of spraying; ensure the Oregon Health Authority is empowered to respond and investigate poisoning emergencies, and develop a program to educate health care practitioners regarding how to diagnose and treat cases of pesticide poisoning. The League is in support of this bill and we ask that you [contact your Senator and State Representative](#). If you have a personal story to tell about your experience with aerial pesticide spray, be sure to share it!

Our Watch List: [SB 24](#), [SB 201](#), [SB 203](#), [SB 210](#), [SB 534](#), [HB 2666](#), [HB 2724](#). For information about these bills, please read them at the Oregon Legislature website or contact Peggy Lynch: zuludar@aol.com

[Visit OLIS](#)

Oregon Legislative
Information System

Easy way to find information
about session bills,
committees, hearings and
what's going on at the
Legislature today.
OLIS can help.
[Click Here](#)
and give it a try.

Support the Action Committee!



Please show your
appreciation of the
Action Committee and
the Legislative
Administrator
by making a donation to
[LWVOR](#)

It is your support that
makes it possible to
carry out this advocacy
work at the Legislature



Volunteer to work on
issues for the 2015
Legislative Session
It's exciting!

Contact the
[LWVOR Action Team](#)

LWVUS asks you to

Tell President Obama to
VETO the XL Pipeline

Send your message
[Click Here](#)

Climate Watch List: [SB 20](#), [SB 22](#), [SB 23](#), [HB 2447](#).

Coal to Clean: [HB 2729](#) or [SB 477](#). For information about
these bills, please read them at the Oregon Legislature
website or contact Claudia Keith: ca.keith@comcast.net

To see a list of some of the issues we will be following this
session, see these [two handouts from our Legislative
Process Day](#). Contact us if these issues are of concern to
you. We can always use YOUR help in following committees
and specific bills.

[Back to top](#)

Social Policy

Early Learning, Human Services Subsidies and Children's Health

Early Learning Bill, [SB 114](#), proposed a
two-generation strategy to address
the needs of both children and parents
together. The bill does not cover details
to implement this strategy, so we will
follow the development of this idea
within the Early Learning Department.
[Link to testimony.](#)



*Karen Nibler, Social
Policy Coordinator*

The sunset of the Oregon Education Investment Board in
[SB 215](#) will be controversial as they fund innovative
projects in the education system for 6 to 20 year olds.
Advocates for full funding of K-12 education think the funds
should go to reducing class size within the existing system.

Ways and Means Education Subcommittee members may be
deciding whether to completely fund school lunches for
those who qualify for reduced price lunches. Sentiment of
most of those who gave testimony was for the state to pick
up the \$.40 per meal cost. This bill [HB 2545](#) was sent to
Human Services Ways and Means for this decision.

On February 6, the House Human Services Committee
listened to presentations on child care subsidies in
Employment Related Day Care (ERDC), low-income tax
credits, and credits for donations to the Office of Child
Care. Anyone can [listen in to hearings on Oregon
Legislative Information System \(OLIS\)](#) if you want to learn
more.

The week, the House Health Care Committee heard two
bills that will impact children's health. [HB 2546](#) seeks to
control youth access to e-cigarettes and [HB 2626](#) asks for
lottery bonds to fund school-based health clinics. HB 2546
has multiple amendments already. The future of additional
school-based clinics via HB 2626 will probably depend on

funding decisions in Ways and Means.

Public Safety

The Justice Reinvestment Project was the first horse out of the gate in Public Safety. The Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) received grant funds for community corrections programs in order to encourage counties to manage offenders locally and prevent prison commitments. The decrease in prison commitments will prevent the construction of more prison space. Letters on [SB 232](#) to allow the Department of Corrections to apply for grant funds for reentry programs and [SB 5506](#) on the CJC Budget were submitted this week. [Link to letters.](#)

M 91 approving Marijuana Legalization will require the Public Safety arena to formulate regulations for users, growers and retail stores legislature. A Joint Committee (no pun intended) meets Monday and Wednesday after 5:00. Intrigued? [Members can listen in on the OLIS Committees.](#) Try it!!!

[Back to Top](#)

Governance

On the Fast Track

On fast track, [HB 2177](#), Motor Voter Registration, supported by the League, passed from the House Rules committee Feb. 2, 5-4, on a partisan basis. It cleared the Ways and Means General Government subcommittee Feb.11, 5-4 and to the full Ways and Means committee Feb 13. Other Elections bills of interest include [HB 2178](#), 48 hour disclosure of \$2500+ campaign contributions 14 days prior to elections; [HB 2061](#), local initiative passers must register with Secretary of State. SJR 5, a constitutional amendment giving both Legislature and citizens the right to limit contributions, and SB 75, which would set limits and include independent expenditure disclosure. Fiscal policy discussions include HJR 2, Rainy Day Fund into the Constitution; HJR 12, addresses property market value vs assessed value (Ballot 47, 1997); HBs 2008, 2009, minimum wage increases; HJR 8, constitutional amendment that eliminates personal income tax surplus return. Others of interest: Pay equity, HB 2006; Paid sick leave statewide, HB 2005. More next LR



*Kappy Eaton,
Governance
Coordinator*

[Back to Top](#)

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to lwvor@lwvor.org by lwvor@lwvor.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



League of Women Voters of Oregon | 1330 12th St. SE, Suite 200 | Salem | OR | 97302