May 23, 2017

To: Joint Subcommittee on General Government
Senator James Manning, Jr., and Representative Greg Smith, Co-Chairs

Re: SB 90 B – Pertains to state agency cybersecurity coordination – Support

The League of Women Voters studies issues and takes positions based on our studies, from which we advocate on governmental policies. This carefully crafted bill would develop a plan and consolidate state agency cybersecurity functions; establish a Cybersecurity Center for Excellence; relate to federal critical infrastructure protection programs; act as liaison with Department of Homeland Security and other entities concerning cybersecurity; and promote development of a cybersecurity workforce. Note, the Governor’s Executive Order 16-13, September 12, 2016, calling for unifying cybersecurity in Oregon, after numerous security breaches, as written, will expire June 30, 2017.

Cybersecurity is an emerging, serious concern the League has not studied per se. We do have positions addressing public safety. In committee discussions for this bill, one member noted that applying centralized oversight to cybersecurity, across the enterprise, could give “cross-policy” opportunities to help many agencies. Following that suggestion, we can apply League positions written to protect the public. The League of Women Voters of Oregon believes:

- Responsible government should share in solving economic and social problems affecting general welfare, including public safety and the protection of personal privacy.
- Technical uncertainties must be publicly recognized and planned for.
- Pertaining to safety, among all levels of government – federal, state, local, and the private sector – effective coordination is imperative in planning and carrying out programs, with responsibility and authority clearly designated.

Oregon state agency vulnerability resulted in large data breaches, exposing other agencies’ data, and resembling an epidemic. This bill calls for protective immunity with cybersecurity rapid incident response and investigation. It supports development of appropriate federal, multi-state or private sector programs, and efforts to support or complement the center’s cybersecurity mission, including provision for accepting donations, with no overall state fiscal impact. We urge support.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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