March 6, 2017

To: Senate Committee on Rules
   Chair Ginny Burdick

Re: SB 802 – Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to allow 16 year olds to pre-register to vote.—SUPPORT

The League consistently supports improving access to voting. One of our priority positions this session is protecting democracy, by promoting more representative elections systems. This bill would improve voting access for Oregonians.

Our support of this bill focuses on the Oregon “Motor Voter” interface. When these teens go to the Department of Motor Vehicles to initiate driving tests, permitting and licensing, they may not need to return until their new drivers’ licenses are up for renewal, which could be a lapse of almost a decade. As our procedures stand, they may not initiate the Oregon “Motor Voter” voter registration sequence until several election cycles have elapsed.

We want to make the system as efficient and and thorough as possible. We urge SUPPORT of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

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LWVOR Governance Coordinator