



*The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 99-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.*

January 29, 2019

To: House Committee on Agriculture and Land Use  
Representative Brian Clem, Chair  
Members of the Committee

Email: [haglu.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:haglu.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov)

Re: HB 2075, Establishes the Development Readiness Program to assist local governments –  
**Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon first studied land use in 1959 and has been active since in supporting our statewide land use planning program with local implementation. We believe that Goal 1 requires open access to the land use process and that all citizens have a stake in the development of their communities. **As we plan our cities and counties, we are deciding where we will all live, work, shop, play and how we'll get there.**

When Senate Bill 100 was passed, the state stepped up to help fund local governments as they developed Comprehensive Plans and Development Codes. However, state funding for this local work—keeping those important planning documents current—has continued to decline. The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) local government grants program has not only been severely cut, but each session those grants are targeted to the latest issue by the legislature, so not all jurisdictions receive those monies. Coastal communities have needs around natural hazards, tsunami planning, economic development and housing. Small rural communities have limited funds to address the needs of today—to help change and/or restore their downtowns and provide zoning for their individual economies and current housing needs.

HB 2075 would provide a separate fund that would be dedicated to helping local governments update those plans so all can enjoy the opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. You will hear of examples of how this technical assistance can make a huge difference in our communities.

The League supported HB 4006 (2018), which provided monies to begin the conversation around possible answers to our housing crisis. The monies are being spent on Housing Needs Analyses, Buildable Lands Inventories and other activities that will help local jurisdictions address these “severely rent burdened communities”. The HB 4006 monies are also helping local communities have very serious conversations with their residents around answers to that important issue.

We ask that you pass HB 2075 and encourage Ways and Means to fund this important program. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

  
Norman Turrill  
LWVOR President

  
Peggy Lynch  
LWVOR Natural Resources Coordinator

cc: Senator Kathleen Taylor and Representative Jeff Reardon, Ways and Means Natural Resources Committee Co-Chairs  
Jim Rue, Director, Dept. of Land Conservation and Development ([jim.rue@state.or.us](mailto:jim.rue@state.or.us))