



*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.*

March 28, 2019

To: Senate Judiciary Committee  
Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair  
Senator Kim Thatcher, Vice-Chair

Re: **SB 966** – Review before transfer and **SB 1008** Second Look hearing – **Support**

The League supports alternatives at all stages of the criminal justice process and community-based programs. The League believes that comprehensive transitional programs are essential for successful completion of rehabilitation for each inmate released or paroled from a correctional facility.

Juveniles committed to the Department of Corrections currently are placed in the Oregon Youth Authority correctional facilities. If the sentence extends past their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, they are transferred to the Department of Corrections for the remainder of their sentence. OYA directors report that many of those originally charged as juveniles succeed in behavior, school and vocational programs before age 25.

The League supports a review before a youth in an Oregon Youth Authority correctional facility is transferred to the Department of Corrections at age 25. If a youth has done well in group living, school and vocational programs, he or she should be considered for early release. Transfer to the adult facility could have negative impacts. Whereas an early release reinforces the good behavior.

The League also supports a Second Look Hearing for those who have demonstrated improved behavior and successful completion of school and vocational programs. These young people can be supervised on parole if they are granted an early release, which can be revoked if they violate the law or parole conditions. If they continue to be successful, it is an incentive to be in the community and a financial savings for the Department of Corrections. It's a win-win for both the youth offender and the correctional system.

We strongly support the consideration of a hearing before a youth is transferred to the Department of Corrections as well as court hearings under the Second Look provision. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norman Turrill". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Norman Turrill  
LWVOR President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Nibler". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Karen Nibler  
LWVOR Social Policy Coordinator