April 2, 2019

To: Senate Judiciary Committee
   Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair

Re: SB 978-1 – Relating to firearm age restrictions, safe storage, 3-D guns, gun injury reporting requirements, CHL fees, public building regulations – Support

In consideration of the League of Women Voters’ strong positions on gun violence prevention, we are very pleased to support the many provisions of SB 978-1. The bill signifies an important step forward for gun safety in Oregon and acknowledges that a comprehensive, common sense approach is needed to tackle this public health crisis.

We applaud the many provisions in SB 978-1 that go well beyond a piecemeal approach and look toward solutions involving cooperation between gun owners, gun sellers, law enforcement, public health, and local governments. The problem is multi-faceted, so it makes good sense to tackle it from a multi-faceted perspective.

We especially commend the inclusion of the requirement to report firearm injury data to the Oregon Health Authority for research into better prevention strategies. This will ensure that future regulations will be based on sound data and measurable outcomes. We are also glad to see that the bill addresses the proliferation of firearms that are undetectable, untraceable, or downloadable, and equally glad to see that local governments will have more leeway to regulate firearms in public buildings.

We thank legislative leaders for their insight and perseverance in putting this bill together. The League offers our full support for SB 978-1 and urges a do pass recommendation.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

Marge Easley
LWVOR Gun Safety Portfolio