

The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a 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 10, 2025

To: Chair Senator Mark Meek, Vice Chair Senator Mike McLane,

and Members of the **Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue**

Re: HB 2010 A – Funding the state portion of the Medicaid budget – SUPPORT

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports comprehensive health care access for all residents, including Medicaid expansion.

These are the issues related to the bill as we see them now. In these times of federal uncertainty, we need Oregon to fund and support Oregonians.

It is known that Oregon Health Plan (Medicaid) covers health insurance for approximately one third of the Oregon population. In rural counties of Oregon, that percentage is much higher: over forty percent in most rural areas of Oregon.

Please see the following for the Health Insurance Survey Coverage dashboard: <u>Oregon Health Insurance Survey (OHIS) Coverage</u>.

A reduction in Medicaid could result in closure of rural/frontier hospitals and services, which are already struggling with low reimbursement and difficulty recruiting staff.

Help maintain Oregonians' 97% population insurance rate, rural healthcare, and hospitals by supporting 2010 and amendments.

We urge your Support for HB 2010 A.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Barbara Klein

LWVOR Acting President

Dr. Christa Danielson Health Care Portfolio

Christa Davielan