

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 20, 2025

To: Chair Courtney Neron, Vice Chairs April Dobson and Emily McIntire, and Representatives Darin Harbick, Zach Hudson, Hoa Nguyen, Ricki Ruiz, and Boomer Wright, House Committee on Education

Re: **<u>HB 2007</u>** – Modifies requirements for the summer learning program – Comment

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) supports with comment for HB 2007 and its -1 amendment which modifies requirements for the summer learning program.

LWVOR believes that the State of Oregon should support after school and summer learning and in 1989 affirmed, "that child care is a social and economic issue that reaches beyond the family into the community. Quality child care needs to be available, accessible and affordable to all families for children of all ages and with differing needs." Further, "there should be oversight to ensure age-appropriate curricular goals are met."

A 2023 League study reported, "An effective childcare system benefits the entire economy." Research shows that, "out-of-school-time (OST) programs influence the participants' success academically and in future careers. The programs even benefit future generations. The investment is worth it." The study further noted that "Success for all participants depends on assuring the content and quality of service. Delivery should have goals, guidelines, and oversight to promote continuing process improvement."

LWVOR believes that Oregon should provide subsidized and stable funding for afterschool and summer programs that include education, enrichment, and experiential learning.

We would like to ask that HB 2007 be further amended to include evaluation measures to clearly show the impact of hours of care after school and the type and extent of coordination of the after school program with the summer school program.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Borbola Klein

Jean V. Pierce Katie Riley Jean Pierce Katie Riley

Barbara Klein Acting President LWVOR

Social Services

After School and Summer Care

CC: Representative Julie Fahey, Senator Janeen Sollman, Charlene Williams, Director, Oregon Department of Education