



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 19, 2025

To: [Chair Rep. Ben Bowman](#), Vice Chairs [Rep. Christine Drazan](#), [Rep. Hai Pham](#),
and Members of the [House Committee On Rules](#)

Re: [HB 2250](#) – Use last-known address of adults in custody for redistricting – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) has a Position stating, “Congressional and legislative redistricting should advance the fundamental purposes of representative democracy and a republican form of government by affording the people a meaningful choice in electing their representatives and holding the government accountable to the people.” The LWV of the US has a Principle that says, "We must promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive."

How can we have a fully representative democracy when not all citizens that reside in a district get counted in that district for redistricting purposes? The federal Census Bureau unfortunately counts prisoners where they are incarcerated rather than where they reside. This inflates the population counts where prisons are located and deflates the population counts for prisoners' residence districts. Therefore, the representation of these districts and jurisdictions is skewed.

HB 2250 would correct this injustice by requiring that the Department of Corrections determine prisoner residence addresses, as best that it can, and give the addresses to Portland State University Population Research Center. The Center will then correct the population counts that it receives from the Census Bureau and provide the corrected counts to the various entities that perform redistricting.

This is an issue of common equity in government. The League strongly supports HB 2250.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Klein".

Barbara Klein
LWVOR Acting President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norman Turrill".

Norman Turrill
Governance Coordinator