



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF OREGON**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 97-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.

February 5, 2018

To: [House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development](#)
Representative Jeff Reardon, Chair
[hhewd exhibit email](#)

Re: [HB 4014](#) – Removes requirement that foster child complete volunteer service hours to qualify for tuition waiver – **Support**

In order to prevent or reduce poverty, the League supports policies and programs designed to: increase job opportunities; and provide opportunities and/or incentives for basic or remedial education and job training.

The League supports HB 4014 removing requirements that current foster child or former foster child complete volunteer service hours during previous academic year to qualify for tuition waiver. This bill would address an unintended consequence that sometimes stands in the way of current or former foster-care-youth qualifying for college tuition waivers. As we understand it, some community colleges are unable or unprepared to track volunteer service hours, thus preventing some foster youth from accessing tuition waivers.

Foster children typically have already experienced many adverse childhood experiences that frequently result in increased poverty and lack of opportunity to gain job skills in technical, community college or higher education programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Handwritten signature of Norman Turrill in black ink.

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

Handwritten signature of Christine M. Vogel in black ink.

Chris Vogel
Education Policy Coordinator
LWVOR Legislative Action