



The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 100-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.

To: [House Committee on Energy and Environment](#)
Representative Karin Power, Chair
Representative Daniel Bonham, Vice-Chair
Representative Janeen Sollman, Vice-Chair
Email: hee.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: [HB 4024](#) - Addressing hydrofluorocarbons - SUPPORT

Since 1968, LWVOR has been a voice on behalf of air quality. In this 2020 session, we have made it a priority to address the climate emergency by supporting legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to zero before 2050 while ensuring a just transition for workers and impacted communities.

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are uncommonly powerful at trapping heat in the Earth's atmosphere, hundreds to thousands of times more potent than carbon dioxide in contributing to climate change per unit of mass. Controlling HFCs provides us with a unique opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to climate policy. HFCs are used in our daily lives, so replacing these products with next-generation alternatives can improve human health as well as the environment.

There is widespread agreement that the use of HFCs should be limited. Companies like Honeywell International Inc., Chemours Co., and the industry's main trade group, the Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), have been investing heavily in research, development and new manufacturing facilities as they set themselves to provide alternative technologies that are now effective and ready to go. Companies have had ample time to prepare for this transition, and HB 4024 provides a practical compliance schedule. Further delays on this issue would penalize companies that have been on the forefront of this transition.

Manufacturing HFC alternatives and next-generation air conditioners and refrigerants could be a boon for American firms and help them to capture a global market. This bill is aligned with similar legislation in Washington and California, which will provide consistency and certainty for the industry as they make their transition to safer alternatives.

By passing this bill, Oregon can take significant action to meet its climate goals while also supporting American job creation and innovation. The League strongly urges a yes vote on House Bill 4024.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca L. Gladstone".

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Mates".

Susan Mates
LWVOR Air Quality Portfolio