



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.

February 3, 2020

To: [House Committee On Education](#)
Chair, Representative Margaret Doherty
Vice-Chair, Representative Teresa Alonso Leon




Re: [HB 4127-1](#) – School Dental Pilot – **Support**

The League supports policies, programs, and funding at all levels of the community and government that promote the well-being, encourage the full development, and ensure the safety of all children. These include: early screening (physical, dental, mental, and behavioral) for all children; early prenatal care and ongoing health care for children (physical, mental, dental).

HB 4127 directs school districts to provide age-appropriate instruction in oral health as part of health education curriculum. LWVOR supports new health education content standards necessary to enable school district compliance in consult with: Dental health professionals who have experience working in public health and with children; and the dental director appointed by the Oregon Health Authority, or the director’s designee.

The League supports a Health Coordinator Pilot Program to support school-based oral health programs through the deployment of community dental health coordinators where the pilot program focus is on the provision of school-based oral health care to historically underserved students who are of ethnic or racial minorities and students who are English language learners. The pilot program shall place up to four community dental health coordinators throughout the state. The pilot program may place up to two community dental health coordinators in urban areas of this state and up to two community dental health coordinators in rural areas of this state. The community dental health coordinators may be based at nonprofit organizations, county health departments or local public health authorities. We further support The Oregon Health Authority application to the United States Health Resources and Services Administration for funding to support the pilot program and OHA seeking additional sources of funding as necessary from public and private entities and may accept gifts, grants and contributions for the purposes of carrying out the pilot program.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

		
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Bill sponsors:
[Representative Hayden, Keny-Guyer, Senator Monnes Anderson](#)
[Representative Alonso Leon, Bonham, Drazan, Greenlick, Helt, Hernandez, Moore-Green, Noble, Nosse, Prusak, Reardon, Salinas, Schouten, Zika, Senator Beyer, Frederick, Hansell, Hass, Knopp, Linthicum, Roblan, Thomsen, Wagner](#)