



The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 101-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.

March 29, 2021

To: [Members of the House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity](#)
Rep. John Lively, Rep. Jami Cate, Rep. Jason Kropf, Rep. Brian Clem, Rep. Bobby Levy, Rep. Rachel Prusak, Rep. Ricki Ruiz, Rep. Kim Wallan

Re: **HB 3040 – Systems Development Charges (SDCs) Study – OPPOSE with -1 Amendment Work Session April 1, 2021**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon has long been a supporter of our statewide land use planning program with local implementation and have been engaging our members since 1959. The program includes Goal 10, Housing, as well as Goal 11, Public Facilities and Services. We support the need for local jurisdictions to fund needed infrastructure for the public health and safety of their citizens.

HB 3040 originally directed the Legislative Revenue Office to conduct a study. The -1 amendment would have the Oregon Housing and Community Services Dept. take on this task. We are most troubled by the direction in the amendment around the issues to be studied and the direction to local governments in the bill. **We are especially concerned with Section 6, page 8, lines 26-30 and page 9, lines 1-7.** SDC charges are approved by local jurisdictions only AFTER they have done due diligence in calculating the costs for various infrastructure needs in that jurisdiction. A part of the charge is for replacing or expanding current infrastructure due to the increase in use because of development and increased population.

The League encourages local jurisdictions to have a discussion related to subsidizing truly affordable housing projects by paying (or forgiving) those SDCs by replacing those payments with their local revenue. But that should be a local conversation unless the state is willing to pay for those infrastructure costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation. **We ask that you NOT move this bill forward.**

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President

Peggy Lynch
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