



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF OREGON

February 20, 2015

House Committee on Health Care  
Representative Mitch Greenlik, Chair  
Representative Cedric Hayden, Vice-Chair  
Representative Rob Nosse, Vice-Chair  
[sandy.thielecirka@state.or.us](mailto:sandy.thielecirka@state.or.us)

Re: HB 2825 – Services for individuals with mental illness - Support

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League believes that the mental health delivery system should include services that focus on recovery of the individual through use of evidence-based crisis intervention and ongoing support.

Local Leagues have observed the need for services for mentally ill individuals in our communities. Emergency rooms and jails have been the crisis intervention options. Local communities have temporary shelters and emergency services but rarely long term housing or treatment options. Grants are needed for housing projects.

Crisis medical care and treatment are within the scope of Oregon Health Authority responsibilities. If the OHA could develop a fund for residential programs and supported housing, it could move the homeless mentally ill and substance abusers into stable housing and treatment. Housing First is a current treatment model. This is a critical need in Oregon communities and should be a priority for funding.

The League supports the request in the bill. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Handwritten signature of Robin Wisdom in cursive.

Robin Wisdom  
President LWVOR

Handwritten signature of Karen Nibler in cursive.

Karen Nibler  
Social Policy Coordinator