



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF OREGON**

April 15, 2015

To: House Committee on Rules
Representative Val Hoyle, Chair
zoe.larmer@state.or.us

Re: HB 3475 – National Popular Vote Compact – SUPPORT

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, political organization that educates citizens and encourages informed citizen participation in government. The League supports HB 3475. When passed by enough states, it will ensure the election of the U.S. Presidential candidate who receives the majority of citizen votes nationwide.

Some 95 years ago, the League was founded during the time that the U.S. Constitutional amendment to give the right to vote to female citizens was being approved. Over the decades, members of the League have studied and discussed both the Presidency and the presidential election process. We concluded that in our form of democracy, there should be direct citizen election of the President. The Electoral College should be abolished because it is an impediment to direct election and has failed to name the majority candidate in four elections, denying the will of voters.

The League first began discussing National Popular Vote (NPV) at its national convention in 2006. Workshops and meetings were held in local leagues across the country to acquaint members with the issues. Following the 2012 convention, a new sentence was added to the Electoral College position to include the NPV as a way to have the majority candidate election ensured. An attempt to remove the Electoral College by Constitutional amendment is not a reasonable procedure any time soon.

With the now increasing numbers of voter suppression laws across the country, enacting NPV becomes even more important. The League strongly urges the Committee to move HB3475 to the floor with a “do pass” recommendation. Thank you for this opportunity to speak.

Robin Wisdom
President

Kappy Eaton
Governance Coordinator