



August 31, 2017

Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA)  
1010 Main Street  
Springfield, OR 97477

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed amendments to rules regarding open burning in LRAPA Title 47. I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Lane County (LWVLC).

The League supports LRAPA's efforts to improve air quality in Lane County by revising the regulations governing outdoor burning. The League believes that all segments of society (government, industry, agriculture, and individuals) share the responsibility for improving air quality.

Specifically, the League supports extending city-wide restrictions to the areas within the respective growth boundaries of Eugene, Springfield, and Oakridge as proposed. This is especially critical for Eugene due to patchwork annexation in some areas. We also support the proposed changes to section 47-015 E that define and add prohibited materials and the addition of section 47-015 I that prohibits burning in barrels. We appreciate that the proposal contains different restrictions depending on population densities, location within or outside of cities or fire districts, and natural weather impacts on air quality.

In order to promote voluntary compliance, we encourage LRAPA to conduct extensive public education about any adopted amendments through the media, internet, and community meetings. Many residents are aware of and concerned about the frequent deterioration of local air quality and interested in guidance about their part in the solution.

If you have any questions about the League's position on this matter or if you believe we can assist in the public education process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Linda Lynch  
President