April 16, 2020

VIA Online Portal to Author, Senate Committee on Environmental Quality, and Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water

The Honorable Nancy Skinner California State Assembly State Capitol Building, Room 5094 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1323 (Hertzberg) – Carbon sequestration: state goals: natural and working lands: registry of projects - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Skinner:

The League of Women Voters of California writes to support SB 1323, which would require the Natural Resources Agency, in conjunction with relevant agencies, to: (1) establish carbon sequestration goals for natural and working lands; (2) include specific CO_2 removal targets in CARB's updated scoping plan; and (3) maintain a registry called the California Carbon Sequestration and Climate Resiliency Project Registry to identify and list CO_2 sequestration projects that are seeking funding from state or private entities.

The League supports actions and policies to mitigate climate change. Levels of atmospheric CO_2 are currently at 415 ppm and climbing – well above the 350 ppm required to keep temperatures below a 1.5 C temperature increase. To reach carbon neutrality by 2045, as directed by Governor Brown's Executive Order No. B-55-18, Californians must both reduce emissions and take CO_2 out of the atmosphere and sequester it. This bill creates CO_2 removal targets for natural and working lands as a step towards identifying the scope and scale of work needed to reach carbon neutrality.

The League of Women Voters of California strongly supports SB 1323 as a next step toward moving the state to carbon neutrality, and then net negative carbon emissions thereafter.

Sincerely,

Carol Moon Goldberg

Carol Moan Holdberg

President