



TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

**HB 680 Earned Income Tax Credit – Individuals Without Qualifying Children –
Calculation and Refundability**

POSITION: Support

BY: Lois Hybl & Richard Willson, Co-President

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The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and advocacy. The League believes that one of the goals of social policy should be to reduce poverty and promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families.

Low wage workers are working to support themselves but often not earning enough to survive. This bill would permit childless individuals to earn a State tax credit equal to 100% of the Federal tax credit and to claim a refund of the amount that exceeds the total tax payable by the individual.

The League believes that expanding the state EITC as proposed in this bill would help to promote self-sufficiency and reduce poverty among Maryland's low-income working residents.

We urge a favorable report on HB 680.