



**TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

SB 239 – Election Law – Campaign Finance – Protection of Contributor

POSITION: Support

BY: Nancy Soreng President

Date: January 26, 2022

The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation in government. We encourage participation in elections through voting and making (modest) contributions to candidates or ballot question committees.

Campaign finance reports must be filed by the treasurer of a campaign for a candidate or a ballot measure with the State Board of Elections (SBE) on a regular basis. These reports are available to the public on the SBE website. This bill states that contributor information may not be used for commercial or solicitation purposes and that contributor information may not be published in newspapers, magazines or other media for the purpose of facilitating commercial solicitation. We support this legislation because the fact that there is no prohibition on using donor information for commercial purposes could cause citizens to hesitate to participate in the political process.

We urge a favorable report on SB 239.