Voters' Pamphlet

Oregon General Election
November 5, 2024

Official Publication

This is your official 2024 General Election Voters' Pamphlet. It is meant to help you cast your vote by mail ballot. Ballots will be mailed to registered voters beginning October 16.

Included in this pamphlet are election deadlines, voter registration information, your rights as an Oregon voter, candidate statements, and measure information.

LaVonne Griffin-Valade

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Oregon Secretary of State

vote!

Oregon Secretary of State
Elections Division

Dear Oregon Voter,

The general election is just around the corner and now is the perfect time to make a plan to vote.

This election is monumental. Voters across the country will determine our next President, the makeup of Congress and State Legislatures, and more. Make sure you're ready to join them by registering to vote and using the information in this pamphlet to inform your decision when marking your ballot.

Voting in Oregon just feels good. Our election system is the gold standard when it comes to accessibility and integrity. Automatic voter registration, thanks to the Oregon Motor Voter Law, ensures more eligible voters will receive a ballot. The postmark law allows you more time to mail in your ballot and get your vote counted. Voter fraud remains exceedingly rare and our ballot counting machines undergo multiple rounds of rigorous testing to ensure accurate results.

False information continues to circulate, meant to undermine your trust in our election system and discourage you from voting. Help us fight back and ensure you are getting your information from the official, trusted sources.

Get the facts and get your questions answered at these trusted sources of information.

OregonVotes.gov | Facebook.com/OregonElections | X.com/OregonElections
Find your county elections office at OregonVotes.gov/Counties

Here's what you need to know about the November 5, General Election.

- Register to vote by **October 15**. Register online or check your registration information at OregonVotes.gov. Ballots will be mailed out beginning on **October 16**.
- **Election Day is November 5, 2024.**
- **Ballots must be received or mailed with a valid postmark by 8 p.m. Election Day.** You may also choose to drop your ballot at one of dozens of official drop boxes. Visit OregonVotes.gov/Dropbox to find the drop box nearest you.
- **Don't be fooled by false information**: False information is often emotionally charged, polarizing, and designed to spread easily online. Get the facts from official sources like OregonVotes.gov or by calling your county elections office. You can find your county elections office at OregonVotes.gov/Counties.

Sincerely,

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Oregon Secretary of State

vote!

255 Capitol St NE, Ste 126
Salem, Oregon 97310

Information (503) 986-1518
Fax (503) 373-7414
OregonVotes.gov

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Oregon Secretary of State

Cheryl Myers
Deputy Secretary of State & Tribal Liaison

Voters' Pamphlet Translations

Making Voting Accessible

ORS 251.026, 251.167, 251.170, 251.173 & 251.315

In 2021, the Oregon Legislature passed the Voter Language Access Bill (HB 3021) requiring the Secretary of State to translate portions of state and county voters' pamphlets into Oregon's most spoken languages. The law seeks to remove barriers to voting for those who are not fully proficient in English.

To help in this effort, the Translation Advisory Council was created. The Council is made up of volunteer community members who represent the ethnic, linguistic, and cultural diversity of Oregon voters. Council members make sure translations are accurate and retain the original tone and meaning in a culturally appropriate manner.

Selected portions of the State Voters' Pamphlets' are available in Arabic, Simplified Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Marshallese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese.

These translations can be found online here: **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet**

Arabic
تتوفر أجزاء مختارة من كتيبات الناخبين لهذه المقاطعة باللغة العربية يمكن العثور على هذه الكتيبات عبر الإنترنت على **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet**.

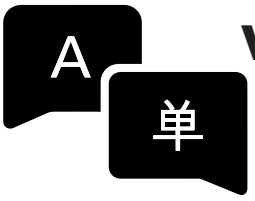
Chinese (Simplified)
本州选民手册的部分内容提供简体中文版本。可以访问 **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet**，获取译本。

French
Certaines sections de cette brochure d'information des électeurs de l'État sont disponibles en français. Ces traductions peuvent être consultées en ligne à l'adresse suivante **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet**.

German
Bestimmte Teile dieser bundesstaatlichen Wahlbroschüre sind auf deutsch verfügbar. Diese Übersetzungen finden Sie online unter **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet**.

Japanese
オレゴン州の有権者パンフレットは一部日本語にも翻訳されています。翻訳版は **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet** からご覧いただけます。

Korean
주 유권자 팜플렛의 선택된 부분은 한국어로 준비되어 있습니다. 번역은 온라인 **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet** 에서 찾아볼 수 있습니다.



Voters' Pamphlet Translations

Making Voting Accessible

ORS 251.026, 251.167, 251.170, 251.173 & 251.315

Marshallese
Mōttan melele ko emōj kelet ie ilo peba eo an ribout ilo state ewōr ilo Kajin Majol. Kwōmaron loe ukok kein online ilo **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet.**

Russian
Отдельные части брошюр избирателей этого штата доступны на русском языке. С данными переводами можно ознакомиться в Интернете по адресу **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet.**

Spanish
Algunas secciones de estos folletos para votantes del estado están disponibles en español. Estas traducciones están disponibles en línea en **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet.**

Tagalog
Ang mga piling bahagi ng mga pamplet na ito para sa mga botante ng estado ay mababasa sa Tagalog. Makikita online ang mga pagsasaling-wikang ito sa **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet.**

Thai
จุลสารผู้ลงคะแนนของรัฐบางส่วนจัดทำเป็นภาษาไทย ฉบับแปลเหล่านี้สามารถพบได้ทางออนไลน์ที่เว็บไซต์ **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet.**

Ukrainian
Окремі частини брошур для виборців штату Орегон доступні українською мовою. Ці переклади можна знайти онлайн на веб-сторінці **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet.**

Vietnamese
Các phần được chọn trong tập tài liệu cử tri tiểu bang này có bản ngôn ngữ tiếng Việt. Các bản dịch có thể xem trực tuyến tại **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet.**

Voters' Pamphlet

General Election
November 5, 2024

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Political Party Statements

Candidates & Measures

For Clatsop County residents
This is a joint voters' pamphlet.

To save on mailing and production costs, a county that prepares a voters' pamphlet may insert the pamphlet into the center of the state voters' pamphlet for distribution. It includes information about candidates and measures from local governments located within the county.

For questions about:

→ registering to vote
→ updating your registration
→ elections and voting
→ completing your ballot
→ returning your ballot
→ absentee ballots
→ replacement ballots
→ signature requirements

Contact your County Elections Office.

Clatsop

820 Exchange St, Ste 220
Astoria, OR 97103

503-325-8511
TTY 1-800-735-2900
fax 503-325-9307
clerk@clastopcounty.gov
www.clatsopcounty.gov

vote!

Dates to Remember

Oct 15

→ **Tuesday, October 15**
Last day to register to vote or to change political party affiliation for this election.

→ **Wednesday, October 16**
First day for counties to mail ballots.

Nov 5

→ **Tuesday, November 5**
Election Day
Last day to return your ballot.
If you mail your ballot it must have a USPS postmark by 8 pm on Election Day.
Or return your ballot to an official drop box by 8 pm on Election Day.

oregonvotes.gov/myvote
Use this online tool to check or update your registration status and track your ballot.

It is against the law to:

- → sign another person's ballot return envelope for them
- → vote more than once in an election or cast a fraudulent ballot
- → vote a ballot if you are not legally qualified to do so
- → coerce, pressure, or otherwise unduly influence another voter
- → sell, offer to sell, purchase, or offer to purchase another voter's ballot
- → obstruct an entrance of a building in which a voting booth or official ballot drop site is located
- → deface, remove, alter, or destroy another voter's ballot, a posted election notice, or election equipment or supplies
- → attempt to collect voted ballots within 100 feet of an official ballot drop site
- → establish a dropsite without displaying a sign stating "Not An Official Ballot Drop Site"

Any violations of the identified election laws are subject to civil and/or criminal penalties.

For more information about voting in Oregon or if you think your rights as a voter have been violated

oregonvotes.gov

1 866 673 8683
se habla español

TTY 1 800 735 2900
for the hearing impaired

Know Your Rights

Your rights as an Oregon Voter include:

- → the right to **access official ballot boxes and election offices** without interference
- → the right to **keep your vote private**
- → the right to **vote without intimidation or threats**

Voter Intimidation may include:

- → **Aggressive or harassing questions** about whether you are qualified to vote intended to interfere with your right to vote, scare you into voting a certain way or to intimidate you from voting, such as questions about your citizenship status, criminal record, residency, other personal information, or questions about how you intend to vote.
- → **False or misleading statements or accusations** about voter fraud or related criminal penalties, designed to frighten you away from voting.
- → **Verbal or physical threats** – express or implied – meant to stop you from voting or to force you to vote for a particular candidate or measure.
- → **Purposefully obstructing or interfering** with your ability to vote.
- → **Targeted surveillance** of particular voters or groups of voters, such as following or tracking voters, copying license plates, taking videos or photos, etc., with the intent to dissuade or obstruct them from voting.

For accurate information about voting, or to report voter intimidation

☎ **1 866 673 8683**
se habla español

TTY 1 800 735 2900
for the hearing impaired

Where do I vote?

In Oregon, we vote by mail. You can vote anywhere you choose.

If you're registered to vote by **October 15**, your ballot will be mailed between **October 16** and **October 22**. Your county elections office will mail it to the address in your voter registration record.

If you don't receive your ballot by **October 25**, call your county elections office.

What if I've moved?

Ballots cannot be forwarded. To receive your ballot, update your voter registration information at **oregonvotes.gov/myvote**.

If Election Day is less than 5 days away, call your county elections office for instructions on how to get your ballot.

How can I get my ballot early?

If you will be away from your home on Election Day, update your voter registration information at **oregonvotes.gov/myvote**. To request an absentee ballot, enter your absentee mailing address and how long you will be there.

Is the Voters' Pamphlet translated into other languages?

Yes. Portions of the voters' pamphlet are available online in:

Arabic, Chinese (Simplified), French, German, Japanese, Korean, Marshallese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese.

You can find these translations online at: **oregonvotes.gov/voterspamphlet**.

How do I complete my ballot?

Your ballot packet will include instructions on how to complete and return your ballot. Follow the instructions!

What if my ballot is damaged?

If your ballot is lost, destroyed, or damaged in a way that stops you from voting, call your county elections office and ask for a replacement ballot.

Do I have to vote on everything?

No. Your ballot will still be counted, even if you don't vote for every contest or measure on it.

Can I change how I voted?

If you have mailed or dropped off your ballot, your vote cannot be changed. If you still have your ballot, follow the instructions that were sent with your ballot.

How do I return my ballot?

You can return your ballot by mail, no stamp needed. If you mail your ballot, it must have a USPS postmark dated on or before **8 pm** on **November 5**.

Or return your ballot to any county elections office or official drop box. You can find the nearest drop box, along with a map of how to get there, at **oregonvotes.gov/dropbox** or by contacting your county elections office.

County elections offices are open Election Day from 7 am to 8 pm.

Is the secrecy sleeve required?

If you received a secrecy sleeve, you don't have to use it unless you want to.

If you didn't receive a secrecy sleeve, your county is one of the many that have incorporated additional security features approved by the Secretary of State's Office into the ballot return envelope and therefore no longer need the sleeve.

Do I have to sign my ballot return envelope?

Yes. Your signature is a security measure used to verify your identity. You're the only person who can sign your ballot return envelope. Power of Attorney documents do not apply to voting.

If you cannot sign your name, contact your county elections office for more information.

Your ballot is only counted if the signature on the ballot return envelope matches signatures in your voter registration record.

If your signature does not match or you forget to sign the envelope, the county will notify you. You will have until 21 days after the election to prove you were the one who signed the envelope.

If my name is on the ballot return envelope, is my vote really secret?

Yes. After your signature is verified, your ballot is separated from the ballot return envelope before it is unfolded and reviewed.

Was my ballot counted?

As a registered voter, you may view updated ballot information at **oregonvotes.gov/myvote**. You can see when a ballot is sent, received, or if it was returned as undeliverable.

When will election results be known?

Initial results are released beginning at **8 pm, November 5** and will continue to be updated through election night and the days following.

Between election night and the date the election results are certified, the unofficial results reported on **oregonvotes.gov** will change. This change represents ballots that were postmarked by 8 pm on Election Night, being received and counted.

Final results, especially for close contests, may not be known until the election is certified and the official abstract of votes is published. Final certified results will be available 37 days after the election.

Do I need a provisional ballot?

If your eligibility to vote can't be determined you will be issued a provisional ballot.

To obtain a provisional ballot, go to your county elections office in person and fill out a Provisional Ballot Request Form.

Your provisional ballot will only be counted if you are determined to be eligible to vote.

How do I file a complaint?

If you believe Oregon election law has been broken, and are an Oregon registered voter, you can ask the Elections Division to investigate. Anonymous requests will not be investigated.

You can find more information and submit a complaint for Elections Division investigation at **oregonvotes.gov** under the "get involved" section.

vote!

Oregon

View unofficial election results

starting at 8 pm on November 5

Unofficial results will be updated through election night and the days following. Final certified results will be available December 12.

results.oregonvotes.gov

Vote 투표하세요 Venez votez

Bout 投票しましょう Голосуйте

Ihre Stimme zählt

Bumoto Bầu chọn إدلي بصوتك

投票 โปรดลงคะแนน

Voters with Disabilities

For more detailed information on accessible voting contact **your county elections office**.

What are the different ways I can vote?

→ **Accessible format ballot**

You mark this ballot using a computer with assistive technology, print and return it. You may also use the accessible tablets or computer stations located in every county elections office.

→ **Large print ballot**

→ **Ask for help**

Who can help me vote my ballot?

→ **Anyone except your employer or union**

You can get help from a friend, family member or other trusted person. Under Oregon law you cannot receive help from your employer or union.

→ **County Voting Assistance Team**

You do not have to ask for help from someone you know. County Voting Assistance Teams are available to help you vote your ballot privately and independently.

What if I cannot sign my ballot return envelope?

→ **You may use a signature stamp or other indicator as your signature**

You must complete a signature stamp attestation form along with a voter registration card before using the stamp or mark to sign your ballot envelope.

What other accessible resources are available?

→ **Statewide Voters' Pamphlet**

Available in digital audio or accessible text at **oregonvotes.gov**.

→ **Easy Voting Guide**

Available in print and accessible HTML at **easyvotingguide.org**.

Know Your Rights

You have the right to Vote!

If you are a US citizen, live in Oregon, are 18 years old, and have registered to vote.

- → ***You have the right*** to a secret vote. You do not have to tell anyone how you voted.
- → ***You have the right*** to get a "provisional ballot", even if you are told you are not registered to vote.
- → ***You have the right*** to get a new ballot if you make a mistake.
- → ***You have the right*** to vote for the person you want. You can write in someone else's name if you don't like the choices on your ballot.
- → ***You have the right*** to vote "yes" or "no" on any issue on your ballot.
- → ***You have the right*** to leave some choices blank on your ballot. The choices you do mark will still count.
- → ***You have the right*** to use a voting system for all Federal Elections that makes it equally possible for people with disabilities to vote privately and independently.
- → ***You have the right*** to know if your ballot, including a "provisional ballot", was accepted for counting.
- → ***You have the right*** to file a complaint if you think your voting rights have been denied.
- → ***You have the right*** to vote or cast your ballot if you are in line by 8 pm on Election Day.
- → ***You have the right*** to know if you are registered to vote.
- → ***You have the right*** to choose whether or not you want to register as a member of a political party.
- → ***You have the right*** to use a signature stamp or other mark but first you have to fill out a form. No one can sign for you.
- → ***You have the right*** to ask for help from elections staff or from a friend or family member. There are some people who cannot help you vote, for example, your employer or union.
- → ***You have the right*** to vote if you are houseless.
- → ***You have the right*** to vote if you have been convicted of a felony but have been released from custody, even if you are on probation or parole.
- → ***You have the right*** to vote if you have a guardian and if you need help reading or filling out your ballot.

for more information

☎ **1 866 673 8683**
se habla español

TTY 1 800 735 2900
for the hearing impaired

(Oregon Constitution, Sections 2 and 3; ORS Chapters 137, 246, 247, and 254; Vote By Mail Manual; Help America Vote Act of 2002; OAR 165-001-0090 and 165-007-0030)

Political Party Statements

At the General Election, a statewide political party may file a voters' pamphlet statement that argues for the success of its principles and the election of its candidates. The party's statement may also oppose the principles and candidates of other political parties or organizations.

The following political parties did not submit a statement for the **2024 General Election**:

→ Constitution Party of Oregon
→ Libertarian Party of Oregon
→ No Labels Party of Oregon

Candidates

Oregon statute (ORS 254.155) requires the Secretary of State to complete a random order of the letters of the alphabet to determine the order in which the names of the candidates will appear on the ballot.

The alphabet for the **2024 General Election** is:

K, Y, W, V, B, O, G, E, N, A, I, J, P, M, X, L, T, C, F, S, U, H, Q, R, Z, D.

Candidate statements included in the pamphlet are separated by office type and position and are further arranged in the same random order in which the names of candidates will be printed on the ballot.

Statements are arranged in the following manner:

→ partisan candidates, by position, in ballot order

→ nonpartisan candidates, by position, in ballot order

Candidates pay a fee or submit signatures in lieu of paying the fee for space in the Voters' Pamphlet. The information required by law—pertaining to occupation, occupational background, educational background and prior governmental experience—has been certified as true by each candidate.

Measures

Measures are proposed changes to the Oregon Constitution or to state laws. For the measures in this Voters' Pamphlet you will find the following information:

1. the ballot title
2. the estimate of financial impact;
3. the complete text of the proposed measure;
4. the explanatory statement; and
5. arguments filed by proponents and opponents of the measure.

Ballot Title

The ballot title is drafted by the Attorney General's office and distributed to interested parties for public comment. After review of any comments submitted, a ballot title is certified by the Attorney General's office. This certified ballot title can be appealed and may be changed by the Oregon Supreme Court.

A special committee of legislators drafted ballot titles for Measures 115, 116, and 117. Committee appointment and ballot title challenge processes pursuant to Chapter 366, Oregon Laws (2023).

Estimate of Financial Impact

The estimate of financial impact for each measure is prepared by a committee of state officials including the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the Director of the Department of Administrative Services, the Director of the Department of Revenue, and a local government representative selected by the committee members. Working from information provided by state agencies and comments provided by a public hearing process, the committee estimates only the direct impact on state and local governments. The estimate assumes that the measure will be implemented as stated and expresses annual costs in ranges wherever it can be calculated accurately.

The committee also consults with the Legislative Refenue Office to determine whether the measure may have an impact on the overall state economy, should appropriate analysis be available.

Further explanation of the estimate can be added by the committee in a second statement if they view it to be necessary. Only the procedures used by the committee, not the content of the statement, can be challenged in the Oregon Supreme Court.

Complete Text of the Measure

This provides you with the actual changes that will be made by the measures to the Oregon Constitution or to state laws.

Explanatory Statement

The explanatory statement is an impartial statement explaining the measure. Explanatory statements are written by a committee of five members, including two proponents of the measure, two opponents of the measure and a fifth member appointed by the first four committee members, or, if they fail to agree on a fifth member, appointed by the Secretary of State. Explanatory statements can be appealed and may be changed by the the Oregon Supreme Court.

A special committee of legislators drafted explanatory statements for Measures 115, 116, and 117. Committee appointment and explanatory statement challenge processes pursuant to Chapter 366, Oregon Laws (2023).

Measure Arguments

Any person or organization may file arguments in favor of, or in opposition to a measure on the ballot by purchasing space for $1,200 or by submitting a petition signed by 500 voters. Arguments in favor of a measure appear first, followed by arguments in opposition to the measure, and are printed in a random order within each category.

Disclaimer

Information provided in statements or arguments by a candidate, a political party, an assembly of electors, or a person supporting or opposing a measure have not been verified for accuracy by the State of Oregon.

Democratic Party

The Democratic Party of Oregon is Working for Progress and Electing Democrats Committed to Helping All Oregonians Thrive

The Democratic Party believes that our nation's greatness is rooted in its diversity and ability to move forward together. Our core beliefs are shared by people of all kinds of backgrounds and communities, and from all regions of our great state. We believe we are **greater together than on our own**. We invite all Oregonians to join us in moving Oregon forward as a beacon of opportunity, full inclusion, and freedom.

In the face of far-right attacks on our freedoms, we will continue to defend our democracy, reproductive freedoms, right to privacy, civil rights, and the freedom of ALL Americans to live and love as they see fit. Democrats believe that this country succeeds when everyone gets a **fair shot**, everyone does their **fair share**, and everyone **plays by the same rules**. Our party is focused on building an economy that **lifts up all Americans**, not just those at the top.

Our Democratic leaders have led the nation in defending our democracy from the threat of rightwing extremism. This election, we're united to:

- Elect Kamala Harris - the first woman, Black American, and South Asian American to hold the office of Vice President - as our country's first woman President,
- Elect Minnesota Governor Tim Walz as Vice President,
- Help secure a Democratic majority in the U.S. House by re-electing Rep. Suzanne Bonamici to CD1, electing Dan Ruby to CD2, electing State Rep. Maxine Dexter to CD3, re-electing Rep. Val Hoyle to CD4, electing State Rep. Janelle Bynum to CD5, and re-electing Rep. Andrea Salinas to CD6,
- Elect Tobias Read as Secretary of State,
- Elect Dan Rayfield as Attorney General,
- Elect Elizabeth Steiner as Treasurer,
- Grow our majorities in the state legislature, and
- Elect Democrats to local offices across the state.

Oregon Democrats stand ready to defend our freedoms and are united in our belief in:

- Growing good jobs for Oregonians
- Reproductive freedom
- Voting rights for all
- A right to health care for all
- Protecting Social Security and expanding access to pensions
- Housing as a human right
- Quality public schools
- Racial justice
- Gender equity
- Protection for labor unions and workers' rights
- Action to respond to climate change
- Humane immigration reform policies
- Criminal justice reform
- LGBTQ+ rights
- Gun safety measures
- Campaign finance reform
- Improving protections for people living with disabilities

Oregon Democrats recommend the following votes on ballot measures: **Vote Yes on Measure 116 & Measure 119**

Read more about the Democratic Party, what we stand for, and how to get involved at www.dpo.org, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ORDems, on X at @ORDems, and on Instagram at @OregonDems.

(This information furnished by Democratic Party of Oregon.)

Independent Party

Are you tired of extremism and polarization?

And being manipulated by politicians who say one thing to get your vote and then do something else?

If so, then maybe the Independent Party of Oregon is for you. A 2023 Gallup poll found that 63% of Americans want a viable third party and that the Democratic and Republican parties "do such a poor job representing the American people that a third party is needed." **The only way to build a third party is to join one and get involved.**

The Independent Party of Oregon (IPO) believes in fiscally and environmentally responsible policies to restore our middle class and address real problems.

Government reform: We work to restore integrity to our institutions by achieving voting reforms that make our democracy more representative and real campaign finance reform. We are founding members of the Honest Elections Oregon coalition that persuaded the Oregon Legislature's 2024 session to limit campaign contributions and require that the true sources of campaign funds be disclosed and revealed in political ads ("taglines"). The persuasive tool was our 100,000 signatures on an initiative to adopt stricter limits and disclosure requirements..

People centered policies: We work on reducing the high cost of living (especially for housing), homelessness, addiction, and the causes and effects of fire and extreme weather on our communities.

Facts:

- We are the fastest growing party in Oregon, adding over 143,000 members since 2007 (4.8% of Oregon's registered voters).
- About 6.5% of all local office holders (city council members, commissioners, mayors) are IPO members.
- We're highly informed, rational, non-tribal, non-extremist voters.
- Our platform is fiscally responsible, socially compassionate, and environmentally protective.
- We fight to keep big money from buying government policy at all levels of government.

Today, government policies in Oregon are crafted largely by and for powerful corporations, large unions, and the wealthy. Government is not accountable to regular people. Politics is too partisan. There is not enough problem-solving. We stand against extremism, crisis entrepreneurs, and those who seek to curtail individual rights.

We work to:

- Oppose spending on inefficient government programs and bailouts.
- Increase transparency in government, especially on how tax dollars are spent.
- Improve education and job training opportunities for Oregonians.
- Protect the environment and the climate effectively.
- Protect Oregon consumers from ripoffs and abuse, including medical billing.
- Provide incentives for business creation and expansion in Oregon, but only if the incentives return greater public benefit than they cost.

2024 PLATFORM

Our 2024 platform (indparty.com/platform), based on our member surveys, aligns public policies with the priorities of ordinary citizens in the areas of health care, education, campaign and ethics reform, and environmental and other policies. See our past Voters' Pamphlet statements at indparty.com/vp.

2024 CANDIDATES

Check indparty.com for the 29 candidates we nominated.

COMMUNITY BASED CANDIDATES

We support candidates backed and trusted by their local communities, not the special interests that dominate Republican and Democratic agendas and account for nearly all of the $153 million spent on Oregon political campaigns in 2022 and the $52 million spent on 2023 lobbying in Oregon.

WE ARE HAVING AN IMPACT

We have worked on several policies to protect taxpayers, consumers, and our environment over the years, but our main focus has been to restore power to ordinary citizens.

In 2024, we helped negotiate the first legislatively adopted campaign contribution limits in Oregon history.

We helped achieve campaign finance reform in Multnomah County in 2016 and Portland in 2018 by passing charter amendment measures to limit campaign contributions to $500 each and require that political ads name their 5 largest funders.

OREGON BALLOT MEASURES:

115	**YES**	Creating power of impeachment in the Oregon Legislature
116	**NO**	Creating a "salary commission" to set compensation for all state government elected officers, with no standards, no judicial review, and no accountability to voters

VOTE. THINK. BE. INDEPENDENT.

www.indparty.com

CHANGE YOUR REGISTRATION TO INDEPENDENT PARTY
Web Search: "Oregon voter registration" and click on "Update"

(This information furnished by Independent Party of Oregon.)

Pacific Green Party

We of the Pacific Green Party are part of a national and international movement: one which began with a desire to address environmental issues such as climate change and over-reliance on fossil fuels. In addition, we stand against authoritarianism, racism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, antisemitism, islamophobia, fascism, and endless war. Social justice is more to us than just a punchline.

Our desire to offer true opposition to the duopoly and business as usual are embodied more locally in our support for:

Ranked Choice Voting (Measure 117): We have already supported this crucial repair to our broken election system in cities like Portland and Corvallis. Now we join with citizens around the state to expand RCV: to better bring every Oregonian true representation, high-quality candidates, and improved voter participation. We want to make sure that no voter will ever again be backed into voting against what they hate. Voters deserve the right to vote FOR what they want.

https://www.oregonrcv.org

Measure 118: The Oregon People's Rebate, which you can read about elsewhere in this Voters' Guide. We believe more money should be in the pockets of the average Oregonian. Not in those of wealthy corporations, which all too often funnel dollars out of state and actively work against our local interests.

(https://www.yesonmeasure118.com)

Outside the Portland-Metro area, we worked to support Oregon tribes, along with ranchers, fisherman, and traditional environmentalists to turn back the harmful Jordan Cove Energy Project. This extractive nightmare threatened Coos Bay as well as other communities both in and out of state.

We join our national candidates, Dr. Jill Stein and Professor Randolph T. ("Butch") Ware in calling for an immediate ceasefire in Palestine. We oppose genocide and rampant militarism both at home and abroad.

We strive to make the slogan "People, Planet, Peace" a reality for the citizens and residents of Oregon. As well as those around the United States and worldwide.

Join us!
Change your registration to Green: **Oregonvotes.gov** .
Learn more, volunteer:
Together, let's build a future we can be proud of.
www.pacificgreens.org

(This information furnished by Pacific Green Party.)

Progressive Party

Fighting for Honest Elections, Economic Justice, Human Rights, Environmental Protection, and Grassroots Democracy.

WE SUPPORT: real campaign finance reform, Medicare for All, equal rights (including same-sex marriage), reproductive choice, and $24 minimum wage.

WE OPPOSE: the corruption of elections by big money, bloated military spending and unneeded foreign adventures, "corporate personhood," letting the Republicans use the filibuster to run the U.S. Senate, "free trade" deals that let corporations override labor, consumer protection, and environmental policies, and the Safeway-Kroger merger.

OUR CANDIDATES

Dr. Cornel West	**President**	**Chris Henry**		**Dist 4**
Nathalie Paravicini	**Secretary of State**	**Moses Ross**		**Dist 4**
Dan Ruby	**U.S. House CD 2**	**Marnie Glickman**	**PDX City Council**	**Dist 2**
David Walker	**U.S. House CD 3**	**Rex Burkholder**		**Dist3**

REAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

Oregon candidate spending skyrocketed from $4 million in 1996 to $153 million in 2022, when the campaigns for Governor spent over $80 million (double 2018's record). Candidates in a single race for the Oregon Senate spent $5 million, over $80 per vote.

The Oregon Legislature had never set limits on political campaign contributions, until March 2024. The Democrats/Republicans were forced to adopt limits, because Honest Elections Oregon had gathered over 100,000 signatures to put a stricter campaign finance reform initiative on the 2024 ballot. The new contribution limits and disclosure requirements are not perfect, and we are working to improve them.

The Oregon Progressive Party is a founding member of the Honest Elections Oregon coalition, which also passed ballot measures to limit contributions and require disclosure of funding sources in Portland and Multnomah County elections.

WE ARE VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT PARTIES, WHICH DO NOT SUPPORT ANY OF THESE POLICIES:

Real campaign finance reform, particularly in Oregon

Democrats should use their U.S. Senate majority to override filibusters and adopt federal laws (1) protecting reproductive freedom; (2) restoring EPA authority to regulate emissions to combat climate change; and (3) enlarging the Supreme Court to 13 members.

Really demand immediate ceasefire in Gaza

"Medicare for All" comprehensive health care

State Bank to invest state funds in Oregon projects and jobs, instead of sending Oregon funds to Wall Street and then borrowing it back at enormous fees and interest rates

Increase minimum wage to living wage ($24) now

Reduce Oregon income tax on families living at or near the poverty level

Remove mortgage deductions on vacation homes

Strictly regulate toxic air pollution, including diesel emissions and aerial spraying of pesticides

Tax emissions that cause climate change; invest in clean energy (not nuclear)

Slash military spending and reduce our 650 foreign military bases in 178 nations

Enable grass-roots efforts to effectively use the initiative and referendum

Ban fossil fuel exports from Pacific Northwest ports, including Jordan Cove

Ban transport of oil by train through Oregon and export of raw logs

Stop state promotion of gambling (a hidden, regressive tax)

INVEST IN OREGON

Oregon should devote its $140 billion of investment funds to public works and jobs for Oregonians, instead of sending it to Wall Street to use in businesses outside Oregon. The State pays over $1 billion in fees every year (mostly undisclosed) to vulture capitalists who use Oregon funds to buy into all sorts of corporations, including fossil fuels and even and makers of spyware used to oppress activists worldwide (search Oregon, NSO, Pegasus).

See our testimony on hundreds of bills at the Oregon Legislature: progparty.org/leg

OREGON BALLOT MEASURES:

115	**YES**	Create power of impeachment in the Oregon Legislature
116	**NO**	Create "salary commission" to set compensation for all state government elected officers, with no standards, no judicial review, no accountability to voters
118	**YES**	Oregon Rebate to provide $1,600 per year to each confirmed resident of Oregon; paid by increasing tax only on corporations with Oregon sales over $25 million

PORTLAND CHARTER AMENDMENT:

26-250: YES on Independent Portland Elections Commission to control implementation of city programs involving elections and campaigns

www.progparty.org --- info@progparty.org --- 503-765-5667

(This information furnished by Oregon Progressive Party.)

Republican Party

Since 1854 when the Republican Party was formed for the purpose of eliminating the scourge of slavery, Republicans have stood for the foundational Constitutional principles of **liberty and justice for all**.

Today's Republicans are uniting people from across the political spectrum—the disillusioned, the apathetic, youth and older adults, people of all races, religions, and backgrounds, and, yes, former Democrats and independents who realize **we can accomplish more as a diverse community working together than we can villainizing one another and being at each other's throats**.

Common sense policies and unwavering commitment to the principles of **individual freedom, personal responsibility, and limited government** unite us for the good of Oregon and this nation. We believe:

- **We must regain control of our borders.** People flee oppression, poverty, and crime in their native countries to enjoy freedom, prosperity, and security here, but without the rule of law, the very security they seek is threatened. Immigration must be legal, orderly, and measured to enable us to integrate immigrants into our communities without harming those already here. We must ensure that human traffickers, drug cartels, foreign gangs, criminals, and enemies of our country are excluded.
- **We must end inflation and make America affordable again.** Exorbitant government spending, printing of money, and consequent inflation is crushing Oregonians struggling to afford food, housing, and transportation. It must stop. We must cut wasteful government budgets, not budgets of working Americans.
- **We must reverse the devastation that Oregon's drug legalization experiment brought to our communities.** The disastrous Measure 110 caused fentanyl and other drugs to pour into our state, leaving in its wake the devastation of addiction and death with little evidence of treatment or hope. We must do better.
- **We must slash barriers to affordable home ownership.** Many Oregonians, especially the young, are losing hope in the American Dream. We can do better.
- **We must restore our cities, making them safe, clean, and beautiful again.** Oregon cities should be safe, vibrant, and beautiful centers of art, industry, and commerce. We must not tolerate criminal destruction of public or private property, but support law enforcement in their work to maintain peace.
- **We must improve academic excellence and broaden school choice.** No student should be a victim of low expectations, top-heavy school administration, nor the distraction of ideological indoctrination. Students deserve access to academic excellence in the environment best suited to their needs.
- **We must defend our Constitution, our Bill of Rights, and our fundamental freedoms.** We must vigilantly guard the freedoms enumerated in our founding documents. The price of freedom is eternal vigilance.
- **We must protect Social Security and Medicare with no cuts, including no changes to the retirement age.** Our retirees depend on it.
- **We must encourage American innovation and production.** Unlike other countries, Americans manage manufacturing with exacting standards to protect both our workers and our environment. Responsible production facilitates human flourishing and strengthens our hand in international diplomacy.
- **We must stop endless involvement in foreign wars and focus military spending on defense.** War steals lives and devastates communities both foreign and domestic.
- **We must end corruption, tyranny, and the weaponization of government against the American people.** The government is the servant of the people, not our overseer, and it operates only by the consent of the governed.
- **We must ensure that women's sports provide a level playing field for biological women.** This is the women's issue of the early 21st century.
- **We must restore public confidence in our elections through voter identification with proof of citizenship and paper ballots.** Trust, but verify.

Join with your Republican friends and neighbors as we face the future with determined optimism, acknowledging and learning from both the errors and the achievements of the past, while working diligently to build a stronger, united Oregon and a better future for all Oregonians.

Oregon Republican Party
187 High Street
Ste. 220
Salem, OR 97301
https://oregon.gop/

(This information furnished by Oregon Republican Party.)

We The People Party

We The People

Fellow Oregonians, our moment of change is upon us.

In a time when **corporate influence and partisan deadlock** seem to dominate our political landscape, We the People, a new political party in Oregon is here to offer a better direction.

We stand against the entrenched duopoly and the **troubling overlap of corporate and state power** and are committed to revitalizing our democracy.

As independents, we hold the power to inject **new energy and action** into the issues that truly matter to people.

We believe that by prioritizing **transparency**, **accountability**, and **genuine representation**, we can break through the barriers of traditional politics and make a real difference in Washington, DC, and our State Capitol.

Our approach is **simple yet profound**: return to the core values of our Constitution to renew our Republic and address the urgent issues of our time. This means having candidates with *ideological diversity* who simply do their jobs, by asking what citizens in their area want - then doing it. Many good leaders amongst us are willing to work together bound by duty and civic pride.

They just need to be given a *fair shot*.

Today citizens are not given this *fair shot*, it is well known Washington DC lobbyists influence even local races.

But we the people, can push back.

Instead, we will work to return power to the **individual**.

To treat each issue as a stand-alone topic, to solve each problem without prescribed solutions, to allow for the expression of **individuality in politics**.

To focus on actions and delivering results in a nonpartisan way to all voters. **To put deeds before promises**, to work on issues that matter, and to bring us together based on data, facts, consensus, and direct action – not divisive ideology that leads to the *political tribalism tearing this country apart*.

Unity for the common good across all political tribes is the antidote of our time.

Let's come together to harness the strength of our independent voices. By doing so, we can drive the change we need and create a government that truly reflects our shared values and aspirations.

Join us in this journey to **bring new hope** and **real action** to the heart of our democracy, and **to challenge any power** that seeks to restrain the freedom and well-being of American citizens.

(This information furnished by We The People.)

Working Families Party

Working Families Party

What is the Oregon Working Families Party?

The Oregon Working Families Party is building an Oregon that works for all of us, not just the wealthy and well connected.

How do we build political power for working people?

The Oregon Working Families Party is a minor political party that uses fusion voting, which allows us to cross-nominate candidates from major parties if they support our values and our issues. If not, we can run our own candidates, but we prefer not to be spoilers or to waste your vote.

What does it mean when you see "Working Families" next to a candidate's name?

It means you know that they have our seal of approval -- and you can vote for them with the confidence that they will do the best job of fighting for working people.

What do we stand for?

THE OREGON WORKING FAMILIES PARTY PLATFORM

A Democracy that Works for the many, not the few.

We vigorously fight any efforts to suppress voters. We must eliminate the ability of wealthy donors and corporations to buy politicians and protect the integrity of our voting system from all threats, foreign and domestic.

Building Worker Power

We demand fair rules and legislation that strengthen unions and create fair working conditions for everyone. We encourage all workers to form or join unions and bargain collectively to determine their terms and conditions of employment.

Health Care and Housing for Everyone

Health care and quality housing are human rights. Society has an obligation to be certain that everyone has a decent place to live, access to health care, clean air, clean water, and a healthy climate. Make healthcare free and universal and guarantee home and community based services for everyone, including mental health care.

Eliminate restrictive local zoning rules that keep housing and schools segregated by race and class. Aid Black families, and other people of color harmed by redlining in buying homes.

Respect the sovereignty of Indigenous Peoples and Tribal Nations.

Quality, Free Education

Quality education is the backbone of any society. We must make public pre-K- 12 a priority again and eliminate schemes that siphon public funds from the public system. From universal preschool to higher education -- including trade schools, public colleges, and universities – all must be tuition free.

Fixing our Broken Criminal Justice System

We demand an end to mass incarceration and the for-profit prison system. We oppose minimum sentencing requirements that have resulted in the world's largest prison population. We also must end forced arbitration schemes used to shield the abuse of corporations.

Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Our party stands for fair comprehensive immigration reform that realigns legal immigration standards to reflect today's conditions, a system not based on race. The two decades old experiment called ICE has failed; it's time to eliminate ICE.

Creating a State Bank

We don't need billionaire bankers. We need a state owned bank to support small businesses and family farms and keep Oregon's money in Oregon.

Fair Trade, Fair Economy

We need trade rules that build strong economies among all trading partners, that enable enforcement of domestic labor and environmental laws, and that regulate and tax global capital. We fight for a just transition away from the global fossil fuel economy that guarantees working families sustainable livelihoods for generations to come.

Tax the Rich

It's high time that wealthy individuals and corporations pay their fair share of taxes. Their greed impacts every aspect of our lives. We must reestablish the tax rates of the 1950's and 60's when our country built a strong middle class and the infrastructure necessary for a strong economy.

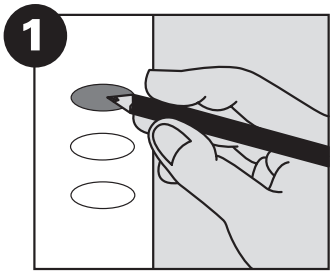
The Oregon Working Families Party will leave no one behind. Join us!

We are working to create a party that represents all working people of all identities. Vote for OWFP-nominated candidates and help us build an organization that can truly represent working people in Oregon politics. **www.OWFP.org**

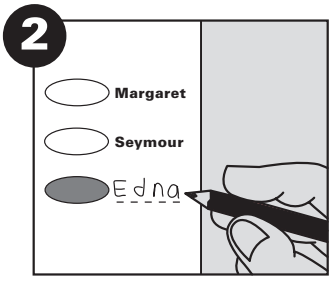
(This information furnished by Working Families Party of Oregon.)

Complete your ballot

Carefully read and follow all instructions printed on your ballot.



To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice.



To write-in a candidate:

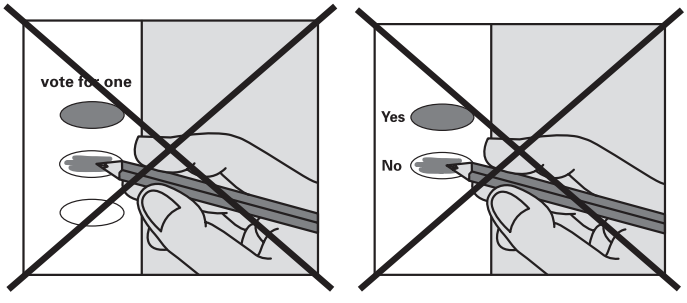
→ Clearly print the candidate's name on the blank line provided on the ballot

-and-

→ Fill in the oval next to the name you wrote-in

Check for errors

You do not have to vote on all contests. Those you do vote on will still count.



If you vote for more than one option, your vote **will not count** for that candidate or measure.

Check your ballot carefully

You can not change your vote after you have returned your ballot.

If you need a replacement ballot, contact your County Elections Office. Contact information can be found on page 6.

Partisan Candidates

President

Robert F Kennedy Jr / Nicole Shanahan*
We The People

Cornel West*
Progressive

Chase Oliver / Mike ter Maat*
Libertarian

Randall Terry*
Constitution

Donald J Trump* / JD Vance*
Republican

Jill Stein / Rudolph Ware*
Pacific Green

Kamala D Harris / Tim Walz
Democrat

US Representative

1st District

Suzanne Bonamici
Democrat

Bob Todd*
Republican

Joe Christman
Libertarian

Secretary of State

Nathalie Paravicini
Pacific Green, Progressive

Dennis Linthicum
Republican, Constitution

Tobias Read
Democrat, Independent, Working Families

State Treasurer

Mary King
Working Families, Pacific Green

Brian J Boquist
Republican, Constitution

Elizabeth Steiner
Democrat

Attorney General

Will Lathrop
Republican

Dan Rayfield
Democrat, Working Families

State Representative

31st District

Jordan Gutierrez*
Democrat

Darcey Edwards
Republican

Robert Miller*
Libertarian

32nd District

Cyrus B Javadi
Republican

Andy Davis
Democrat, Working Families

Nonpartisan Candidates

Judge of the Supreme Court

Position 1

Stephen K Bushong

Position 7

Bronson D James

Judge of the Circuit Court

19th District, Position 1

Nick Brajcich

District Attorney

Columbia County

Joshua Pond*

***Candidate chose not to submit a voters' pamphlet statement.**

This is a complete listing of federal and state candidates for the November 5, 2024, General Election, as prepared by the Secretary of State for counties covered in this pamphlet. County and local government candidates are listed only if those offices are eligible to appear in this pamphlet. The ballot you receive may include additional local candidates and measures that do not appear in this pamphlet.

Measures

115

Amends Constitution: Authorizes impeachment of statewide elected officials by Oregon Legislature with two-thirds vote by each House; establishes process

116

Amends Constitution: Establishes "Independent Public Service Compensation Commission" to determine salaries for specified officials; eliminates legislative authority to set such salaries

117

Gives voters option to rank candidates in order of preference; candidate receiving majority of votes in final round wins

118

Increases highest corporate minimum taxes; distributes revenue to eligible individuals; state replaces reduced federal benefits

119

Cannabis retailers/processors must remain neutral regarding communications to their employees from labor organizations; penalties

Candidates are not required to file voters' pamphlet statements.

Statements and measure arguments are printed as submitted.

The state does not fact check the information submitted by candidates and measure argument filers. Inaccurate or wrong information is not corrected.

President

Robert F Kennedy Jr

We The People

Occupation: Attorney

Occupational Background: Working as an environmental attorney for 40 years, Kennedy has won lawsuits to protect our air, soil, food, and health from corporate polluters. He has also fought and won cases to defend the Constitutional rights and freedoms of the American people.

Educational Background: Harvard University, Bachelor of Arts; University of Virginia School of Law, Juris Doctor; Pace University, Master of Laws

Prior Governmental Experience: N/A

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is running for president as an independent to end the corrupt merger of corporations and government and to fix the broken two-party system. To heal the partisan divide, Kennedy proposes a "unity government" in which voices from all parties are represented.

As president, Kennedy will end costly foreign wars and reinvest the trillions saved at home to restore the middle class. He has plans to: 1) redirect 20% of government contracts away from corporations (that offshore our economy) into small businesses, creating millions of jobs; 2) offer a new GI Bill to anyone willing to serve their community in our domestic Peace Corps, providing volunteers with assets to pay their way through college, put a down payment on a home, or start a business; 3) assist homebuyers with government-guaranteed 3% mortgages; and 4) cap childcare at 10% of income to make parenthood affordable for Americans.

Kennedy will secure the southern border and end the humanitarian crisis there. He will address the epidemic of drug addiction with innovative solutions that promote healing and recovery. He will end the epidemic of chronic illness in our country, especially among our children.

Kennedy and his Vice Presidential nominee, Nicole Shanahan, will champion regenerative agriculture. By promoting farming practices that restore soil health and biodiversity, they will advance a sane, resilient food system, benefitting people and the planet.

Kennedy and Shanahan will eradicate corruption and ensure transparency and accountability.

(This information furnished by Team Kennedy.)

President

Chase Oliver

Libertarian

Occupation: Logistics manager

Occupational Background: Experience in various industries, working up from dishwasher to business consultant and maritime logistics management for one of the world's largest shipping firms. Boardmember of a national LGBT educational non-profit.

Educational Background: Twenty years of on-the-job training and knowledge.

Prior Governmental Experience: No experience raising taxes, sending our troops to fight unnecessary wars, waging the failed War on Drugs, interfering with free markets, or overspending taxpayers' hard-earned money.

CHASE YOUR DREAMS WITHOUT THE GOVERNMENT STANDING IN YOUR WAY!

As I visited all 50 states over the past 18 months with my amazing VP nominee, **Mike Ter Maat**, I heard from voters who doubt they can **CHASE THEIR DREAMS**. I aspire to change that mindset. Inflation is robbing us of our potential. Government overspending and reckless money printing fuels skyrocketing costs.

By slashing spending and balancing the budget, **we can crush inflation and strengthen the economy**. Our immigration system is outdated and inefficient. We must break the partisan gridlock and simplify the process so immigrants can come, work, and thrive as part of our communities. I support an Ellis Island-style system with medical and criminal background checks at accredited ports of entry.

I am **ANTI-WAR to the core**. I will **END WARS AND BRING THE TROOPS HOME.** We must end drone strikes and military interventions while championing free trade and international goodwill. I will end the Justice Department's abuses and **pardon all individuals imprisoned for victimless crimes**, starting with Edward Snowden and Ross Ulbricht.

Our broken criminal justice system needs a radical overhaul. **We must dismantle the prison-industrial complex, end the failed War on Drugs, abolish the death penalty, and eliminate qualified immunity for police.**

I am running for president on the Libertarian message that if you're not harming anyone:

- Your life should be **YOUR** life,
- your body should be **YOUR** body,
- your property should be **YOUR** property,
- and your business should be **YOUR** business.

https://votechaseoliver.com/

(This information furnished by The Libertarian Party of Oregon.)

President

Jill Stein

Pacific Green

Occupation: Medical Doctor

Occupational Background: Former Harvard Medical School Instructor in Medicine

Educational Background: Harvard College, Harvard Medical School

Prior Governmental Experience: Town Meeting Lexington MA 2005-2010

The political system is broken. The two Wall Street parties are bought and paid for. Both are abandoning working people, worsening the climate crisis, undermining democracy, and squandering trillions on the endless war machine while tens of millions of Americans lack housing, food, healthcare and more.

Over 60% of us now say the two-party system has failed and we need a party that serves the people. I'm running for President to offer that choice for the people. Our campaign is the only anti-war, anti-genocide, pro-worker, climate action choice with a path to the White House.

Political insiders smear voters who want better choices. But without freedom of choice in elections, there is no democracy. So forget the elites who tell you to ignore your struggle and to keep voting for the politicians who caused it. Change won't come from them; it has to come from the people.

If we come together, we can create an economy that works for all of us with living-wage jobs, healthcare, housing, food, childcare, debt-free education, and guaranteed livable income as human rights. We can create a Green New Deal with millions of jobs to fight climate collapse, secure clean air, water, and food, and protect Mother Earth.

We can end endless war, rampant militarism, and genocide, and launch a new foreign policy based on diplomacy, international law, and human rights. We can revive our democracy with ranked-choice voting, proportional representation, and public campaign financing to get big money out of politics. We can end mass incarceration, fix our immigration system, and ensure our rights, freedoms, and justice for all.

We have the power to do all this and more - and we can use it in 2024 to start building an America and a world that works for all of us.

jillstein2024.com

(This information furnished by Jill Stein for President 2024.)

President

Kamala D Harris

Democrat

Occupation: Vice President of the United States

Occupational Background: U.S. Senator, Attorney General, District Attorney

Educational Background: University of California, Hastings College of the Law (J.D.); Howard University (B.A.)

Prior Governmental Experience: U.S. Senator, Attorney General of California, District Attorney of San Francisco, Deputy District Attorney of Alameda County

Vice President Harris is a fighter for the people. From her days as a prosecutor to her service as Vice President, she has defended the rights of everyday people by standing up to predators, scammers, and powerful interests. She has been fearless in taking on anyone who threatens the rights and freedoms of Americans.

As a prosecutor, she put murderers and abusers behind bars, standing up for women and children. As California Attorney General, she cracked down on transnational gangs trafficking drugs and guns across the border to make communities safer. She also took on the big banks that committed mortgage fraud, winning back billions in relief for homeowners. As a Senator and Vice President, she took on the big drug companies to cap the cost of insulin for seniors and led the fight for reproductive freedom. She has also advanced America's interests on the world stage, including by taking on Russian leader Vladimir Putin and standing with NATO.

As president, she would make strengthening the middle class a defining goal of her presidency. She will confront price gouging, work to lower costs, and expand opportunity so that every American has the chance to not just get by, but get ahead. And she will continue fighting to restore our freedoms, from reproductive rights to voting rights.

(This information furnished by Harris for President.)

Vice President

Tim Walz

Democrat

Occupation: Governor of Minnesota

Occupational Background: U.S. Representative, U.S. Army National Guard, Teacher and Coach

Educational Background: Chadron State College (B.Sc.)

Prior Governmental Experience: Governor of Minnesota, U.S. Representative for Minnesota's 1st Congressional District

Governor Tim Walz is a champion for America's working families. He enlisted in the Army National Guard when he turned 17 and served for 24 years, rising to the rank of Command Sergeant Major. After attending college thanks to the GI Bill, Walz served his community as a high school teacher and football coach – taking his team to the state championship for the first time in the school's history. He was elected to Congress in a Republican-leaning district, where he served as the ranking member on the House Veterans Affairs Committee and he passed legislation to help stem veterans' suicides.

As Governor, Tim Walz has an impressive record of delivering for middle-class families like the one he grew up in. He cut taxes for working families, lowered the cost of insulin, cracked down on junk fees, and signed paid leave into law. Walz stood up for fundamental freedoms and led Minnesota to become the first state to pass legislation protecting a woman's right to choose following Trump's overturning of Roe. A gun owner and hunter, he expanded background checks in Minnesota. And, Walz worked across the aisle to pass a bipartisan infrastructure package.

Together, he and Vice President Harris will fight for our freedoms, our families, and our future.

(This information furnished by Harris for President.)

US Representative, 1st District

Suzanne Bonamici

Democrat

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Occupational Background: Consumer Protection Attorney

Educational Background: Lane Community College, AS; University of Oregon, BA, JD

Prior Governmental Experience: Oregon State Legislator; Federal Trade Commission

Suzanne Bonamici
Strong Leadership, Oregon Values, a Better Future

Suzanne worked her way through community college, university, and law school, so she knows what it's like to struggle to make ends meet. She was a paralegal at Legal Aid and a consumer protection attorney. Volunteering in public schools inspired her to run for office; now she's a national leader on the Education & Workforce Committee.

Suzanne is Building an Economy that Works for Everyone. She has:

- Delivered federal dollars to address homelessness, expand mental health care, fight addiction, and build more affordable housing in cities and rural communities.
- Passed a bipartisan infrastructure bill that's creating jobs and bringing $5 billion to Oregon for roads, bridges, public transit, renewable energy, and broadband, including funding for the I-5 Interstate Bridge project.
- Supported universal health care and passed legislation to reduce prescription drug costs, including capping insulin at $35/month for seniors. She will always protect Medicare and Social Security.
- Delivered $52.3 million to NW Oregon this Congress, including $6.25 million to add more than 300 units of affordable housing.

Suzanne is Leading with Oregon Values. She will:

- Stand against extremism and protect democracy.
- Fight for access to abortion care, IVF, and contraception because patients, not politicians, should make these decisions.
- Champion LGBTQI+ rights, voting rights, and gun violence prevention.
- Invest in affordable child care, public education, and paid leave.
- Implement the most significant climate bill in history, which she helped pass as a leader on the Science Committee, to create good jobs in emerging industries and help us equitably transition to renewable energy.
- Support well-rounded public education, apprenticeships, debt-free higher education, and career and technical education.

Selected endorsements:

Oregon AFL-CIO
Oregon League of Conservation Voters
Oregon State Fire Fighters Council
Oregon Nurses Association
Planned Parenthood Action Fund

www.BonamiciForCongress.com

(This information furnished by Bonamici for Congress.)

US Representative, 1st District

Joe Christman

Libertarian

Occupation: Computer Programmer

Occupational Background: Technology

Educational Background: B.S. Computer Science

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Elect someone who will fight the president's agenda, no matter who wins!

Oregon needs change. The Democratic Party has failed Oregon and the Republican Party has hardly even bothered to show up. Send a message to both of them by voting for me. I promise no matter who is elected president, I will be a nuisance to them.

I will fight to do the following:

End the Wars

- End the Gaza Genocide.
- End Selective Service.
- End America's involvement in NATO.
- End the Military-Industrial Complex.

Protect the First Amendment

- The government has no right to restrict protest outside of time and place; the government may not restrict boycotts; the government may not restrict these either directly or by proxy through restrictions on government contracts.
- The government has no place restricting "disinformation," "misinformation," or "malinformation" either directly or through "nudging."
- The government has no right to ban foreign companies like TikTok from existing in our information sphere.

Protect the Second Amendment

The right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

That includes:

- No "Assault Weapons" ban.
- No Magazine Size Restrictions.
- No restrictions on developing technology such as 3D printing.

Protect Civil Liberties

- Abolish Civil Asset Forfeiture.
- Work to end Qualified Immunity.
- Legalize all drugs.
- Affirm the right to refuse any medication including vaccines.
- No restrictions on sexual activity among consenting adults done in privacy
- End the Espionage Act and fight for full pardons/dismissals for Manning, Assange, Reality Winner, Daniel Hale, and Snowden.

Lower Taxes

- I will vote for no tax increase.
- I will vote for no new taxes.
- I will vote to decrease taxes whenever reasonably possible.

Together, we can defeat the duopoly.

joeforcongress2024.com

(This information furnished by Joe Christman.)

For questions about:

→ registering to vote

→ updating your registration

→ absentee ballots

→ elections and voting

→ completing and returning your ballot

→ signature requirements

→ replacement ballots

Contact your County Elections Office.

Secretary of State

Nathalie Paravicini

Pacific Green
Progressive

Occupation: Naturopathic Doctor

Occupational Background: Entrepreneur

Educational Background: MBA, University of Houston, Naturopathic Doctorate, National University of Natural Medicine

Prior Governmental Experience: Gulf Coast CHIP Coalition, Episcopal Health Charities Technical Advisory Committee

As Secretary of State (SOS), my priorities include:

1. Electoral reform – Ranked Choice Voting (RCV): Vote YES for Measure 117!! I will help implement RCV in local communities too, expanding democracy beyond a two-party system driven by money.
RCV empowers "We The People" to run for office, collaborating to solve the catastrophes we face: climate change, a failing healthcare system, divided and struggling communities.

2. Campaign Finance Reform: the Honest Elections coalition managed to finally get limits on campaign donations passed in 2024. As a gesture of goodwill Honest Elections agreed to some provisions requested by business and some union leaders.

Those provisions need to be properly implemented, or campaign finance reform will be a sham. If loopholes are created for "membership organizations," the very few with endless money will use those same loopholes.
Don't be fooled: learn about campaign finance reform at nathalie4or.org and Honest-Elections.org.

3. Push for adequate remuneration of state legislators: if you want legislators to work for you, ensure they are properly remunerated. In Oregon legislators struggle to do the work they need to do for you, paving the way for "big money" to influence your legislators.

4. Focus on the needs of small business: The SOS issues the charters that govern corporations, large and small. A proactive SOS can facilitate inter-agency cooperation to provide wrap-around services for success.

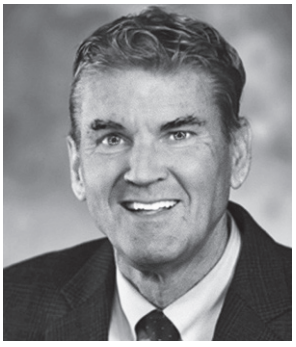
5. **The SOS chairs the Oregon Sustainability Board and serves on the State Land Board.** For far too long we have pitted jobs and education against the health of our environment. Yet resource-rich rural areas remain economically depressed and underserved, with the added environmental degradation to contend with.

We need the severance tax back to fund local communities as a first step.

Visit **nathalie4or.org** for common sense solutions; get involved

(This information furnished by Nathalie for SOS 2024.)

Secretary of State



Dennis Linthicum

Republican
Constitution

Occupation: State Senator; Small Business Owner; Rancher

Occupational Background: State Senator; Klamath County Commissioner; Sr. Vice President Management Information Systems; Principal/Owner, Aslan Enterprises; Rancher

Educational Background: UCLA, BA -Economics; BIOLA MA -Apologetics

Prior Governmental Experience: State Senator; Klamath County Commissioner; Elected PCP - Klamath Co. Republican Party; Senate Committees: Judiciary; Healthcare; Education; Housing and Development; Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs

As Oregonians, we cherish individual liberty. We find equal appeal in the charms of farm-to-table roadside stands and the convenience of mega-store and mall shopping. Our sense of community is expressed through our **appreciation of free markets, fiscal realism, smaller government, personal charity and dignity**.

The challenges facing Oregon are enormous. The laundry list of social ills tearing at the fabric of our lives demands change. Weakness in the Secretary of State's executive office has intensified Oregon's **accountability, transparency and ethics issues. People are demanding government action based on sound, foundational principles.**

Dennis has pledged to:

- **Restore –**election integrity and promote diligent custodial ownership of election records
- **Safeguard** –accessibility and integrity of every Oregonian's vote
- **Demand** –rigorous government audit accountability
- **Conduct** –meticulous audits across executive agencies and departments
- **Promote** –efficient and realistic resource development goals

Dennis has seasoned experience and unwavering determination. He pledges to restore accountability to Salem using his native strategic awareness and understanding. Dennis will check executive agency and departmental overreach to **stop the careless waste of taxpayer dollars.**

Dennis will champion the rights of the individual.

Dennis will fiercely defend your right to pursue opportunities and elevate our communities toward greater prosperity. Oregon's wealth of resources—timber, water, farmland, ranch land, minerals, technology, and recreation—**combined with the resilience and spirit of our people, constitutes a winning strategy.**

Senator Brian Boquist says, **"Dennis is the perfect leader to**:

1. **ensure voter integrity,**
2. **audit state agencies, and**
3. **oversee corporate registrations."**

"Dennis will bring Integrity, Accountability and Transparency to the Secretary of State's office." – Senator Kim Thatcher, SOS candidate ('20)

More at: ElectDennis.com

(This information furnished by Dennis Linthicum.)

Secretary of State

Tobias Read

Democrat
Independent
Working Families

Occupation: State Treasurer

Occupational Background: Oregon Treasurer; Oregon State Representative; Product Developer, NIKE

Educational Background: University of Washington, MBA; Willamette University, BA

Prior Governmental Experience: State Treasurer, 2017-present; State Representative, 2007-2016

Tobias Read: Integrity, Experience, and a Track Record of Results

- Helped lead the effort for full-day kindergarten, so a good educational start doesn't depend on your income or zip code; increased options for families to save for college; and passed Open Oregon, which has saved 1.5 million students more than $152 million on textbooks.
- As Treasurer, protected Oregon's pension fund to ensure a secure retirement for thousands of workers, and created OregonSaves, helping over 100,000 Oregonians without a pension plan save for retirement.
- Protected our environment by preserving the Elliott Forest and safeguarded Oregon's investment funds from climate change risks.
- Consistently defended Oregonians' health care, reproductive rights, and access to abortion.

A Clear Vision for Secretary of State

Tobias will continue to make Oregon a national leader in secure and convenient voting by mail. And he'll stand up to anyone who tries to undermine our elections through misinformation, threats, or intimidation.

- Tobias will protect Oregon's election workers by strengthening security against threats and he will also protect our vote-by-mail system, and strengthen Oregon's reputation for clean and fair elections.
- As "auditor-in-chief," Tobias will use audits to make sure our state tax dollars are not wasted, services are delivered effectively, and are free from political interference.
- And at a time when so many try to divide us, Tobias will continue his effective, steady leadership to bring Oregonians together.

Broad Support Across Oregon
Just a few of Tobias' Endorsements:
Planned Parenthood PAC of Oregon
Oregon Education Association - PAC
SEIU Oregon
Oregon League of Conservation Voters
Oregon Nurses Association
Oregon Alliance for Gun Safety
Oregon State Police Officers' Association
PCUN
AG-PAC
Oregon State Fire Fighters Council
Oregon AFSCME
Oregon AFL-CIO
UFCW 555
...and elected officials, community leaders & organizations across Oregon!

See the entire list at TobiasRead.com.

(This information furnished by Friends of Tobias Read.)

State Treasurer

Mary King

Working Families
Pacific Green

Occupation: Economics Professor Emerita, PSU

Occupational Background: Chair PSU Economics, Planning Analyst, Bicycle Messenger, Waitress, Bartender, Retail, Electronic Assembly

Educational Background: UC Berkeley PhD, Economics; Oxford University, Rhodes Scholar; Stanford BA, Economics

Prior Governmental Experience: Multnomah County Preschool for All Planning: Steering Committee and Finance & Administration Working Group

Organizations & Community Service: President, Family Forward Oregon; Vice-President, Oregon Center for Public Policy; President, PSU American Association of University Professors; Member, Jobs with Justice Workers Rights Board

A Green Future for Oregon - Invest in Oregon and Oregonians!

"Investments reflect our values; every dollar should uplift working families, not corporate interests. *Mary King's a proven leader who'll prioritize the well-being of the multiracial working class. A just economy starts with fairness for all."*
Reyna Lopez, Co-Chair Oregon Working Families Party

"Mary will press to establish a state bank to partner with community banks to create good union jobs in the booming clean energy economy. A state bank could be a lifeline for students, farmers & small businesses and provide far less expensive funding for local infrastructure."
Oregon Working Families Party Co-Founder, Barbara Dudley

"Mary worked with us for Oregon's paid family leave, paid sick days and a stronger childcare system. *She's pushing for taxing the wealthy and big corporations to fully fund the housing, education, childcare & healthcare that Oregon families need."*
Lisa Dodson, Author of Getting Me Cheap

I'm Fighting to:

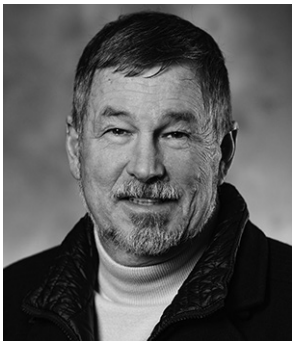
- **Phase PERS Funds out of Wall Street's Risky, Unreliable "Private Equity."** Oregon's $53 billion in "corporate raider" funds isn't all paying out— but it's gouging Oregonians, raising rents, increasing evictions and strip-mining vital sectors like healthcare & retail.
- **Divest from Fossil Fuels, Arms Manufacturers, and Countries Violating International Law:** Invest in a less risky, better future.
- **Manage State Forests to Slow Climate Change:** Let our trees grow; sell carbon credits for money to support rural schools.

Endorsements:
Pacific Green Party
American Federation of Teachers, Oregon
United Food and Commercial Workers, Local 555

www.MaryKingWFP.com

(This information furnished by Mary King.)

State Treasurer



Brian J Boquist

Republican
Constitution

Occupation: Farmer, Forester, Business Owner, Citizen Legislator

Occupational Background: Aviation, construction, military, international business, humanitarian & veteran foundation

Educational Background: MBA Oregon State, BS Western Oregon, Tillamook HS

Prior Governmental Experience: State Senator, State Representative, Finance & Revenue Committees, Rules Committee (Oregon Investment Council Appointments), Oregon Homeland Security Council, US Army (Retired), Defense State (Contractor), School Budget Committees

Organizations: Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Elks, National Federation of Independent Businesses

Family: Peggy, five adult children.

You have clear choices: same old same old 'status quo' or change?

Does government serve you? Or rule you?

Is your grocery or utility bill less today than last year?

Character, leadership and real experience matters!

"I'm an independent minded constitutional republican. I believe supporting Oregon small businesses, protecting property rights, wise investments, and less state government results in a smart financial path to 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.'"

Brian says stop the globalist sellout driving up your grocery, utility and fuel bills … invest in Oregon not New York. Oregon First.

Brian says Oregon pensions are more important than government paying foreign salaries and retirements overseas.

Brian says the State Land Board should manage our state forests and natural resources making life affordable for all Oregonians.

Brian says safeguard senior retirements. Maximize investments!

Brian says invest in inexpensive housing in Oregon not global private equity funds.

Brian says invest in Oregon infrastructure not low yielding government bonds in Washington DC.

Brian says stop squandering young Oregonian's future with debt, bad policies, and poor investments.

Brian says Oregon needs local jobs not government gimmicks.

Brian says government overregulation stifles investments.

Brian says stop Oregon business closures.

"Oregon needs to support families, small and veteran businesses with Oregon investments. Oregon needs inexpensive homes built not government bureaucracy. Oregon needs affordable quality education. Oregon needs common sense investing for Oregonians not Washington DC political correctness."

"I am asking for your vote."

Leadership That Counts - Boquist for State Treasurer

(This information furnished by Brian Boquist.)

State Treasurer

Elizabeth Steiner

Democrat

Occupation: State Senator, Family Physician

Occupational Background: Adjunct Associate Professor of Family Medicine; University of Chicago

Educational Background: OHSU Residency; UMASS Medical School; University of Chicago

Prior Governmental Experience: State Senator

Financial Health, Stability, and Security for Every Oregonian.

As a family physician, mom of three, and one of Oregon's chief budget writers, Senator Elizabeth Steiner has seen firsthand how investing our tax dollars wisely in education and health care can make all the difference for hard-working families.

Elizabeth has always put results before politics. She's recognized as one of the most bipartisan leaders in Oregon, working with Republicans and Democrats to balance the state budget.

Elizabeth fights for our shared values. In the State Senate, Elizabeth has fought for more affordable housing, raised the minimum wage, delivered health insurance for every Oregon child, increased funding for education, and helped create the Paid Family and Medical Leave program so Oregonians can take paid time off to care for themselves or loved ones. And Elizabeth sponsored the strongest protections for reproductive healthcare in the country, protecting access to abortion for Oregonians.

As Treasurer, Elizabeth will focus on boosting Oregon's financial stability by:

- Protecting Retirement: Ensuring that the state pension fund is invested wisely to protect the retirement Oregonians worked hard for.
- Helping Oregonians Save: Expanding the OregonSaves retirement program and creating voluntary savings programs to help Oregonians prepare for emergencies.
- Expanding Post-Secondary Savings Plans: Increasing the use of 529 plans so that Oregon families can save for college or other post-secondary education.
- Prioritizing Smart Investments: Leveraging bonding to invest in housing and infrastructure.

Proudly Endorsed By:

Planned Parenthood PAC of Oregon

Oregon AFSCME

SEIU Oregon

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

Oregon State Fire Fighters Council

Oregon State Building & Construction Trades Council

Basic Rights PAC

Oregon Nurses Association

Oregon Education Association - Political Action Committee

Oregon School Employees Association

U.S. Senator Ron Wyden

U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley

And many more! Learn more: elizabethfororegon.com

(This information furnished by Friends of Elizabeth Steiner.)

Attorney General

Will Lathrop

Republican

Occupation: Attorney

Occupational Background: Deputy District Attorney, Yamhill County, Marion County; Attorney, National District Attorneys Association; Executive Director, International Justice Mission

Educational Background: B.A., University of Puget Sound; J.D., Willamette University, College of Law (Trustee Scholar)

Prior Governmental Experience: Yamhill County, Marion County

A WAVE OF NEW LEADERSHIP

A sixth-generation Oregonian, Will is an **experienced prosecutor** and **proven leader** who has dedicated his career to **public service** by **protecting women and children from violence in Oregon and internationally.**

"It's painful for me to watch the state I love suffer. Oregon is a wounded beauty – a beautiful state marred by crime, drug trafficking, and a lack of accountability. I represent a dawn of new leadership that will bring lasting change and ensure a safer, healthier future for Oregonians."

-Will Lathrop

PRIORITIES FOR A SAFER OREGON:

- **PROTECT CHILDREN FROM ABUSE & EXPLOITATION**
- **COMBAT CORRUPTION & MISUSE OF TAXPAYER FUNDS**
- **REDUCE CRIME & HOMELESSNESS**
- **HOLD DRUG TRAFFICKERS ACCOUNTABLE**

EXPERIENCED PROSECUTOR & DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT:

8 years in Africa protecting women and children from violence. Will led large multinational teams in East and West Africa to protect women from violence, rescue child slaves and human trafficking victims, and build up criminal justice systems. His international experience makes him uniquely qualified to combat drug trafficking in Oregon.

A child sex-abuse prosecutor for 9 years in Oregon, Will served as a Deputy District Attorney in Yamhill County and in Marion County's Special Victims Unit. Will prosecuted homicides, domestic violence, human trafficking, and drug trafficking cases, but focused on protecting children from sexual abuse and holding pedophiles accountable.

As a leading prosecutor and advocate for crime victims, Will was recruited to the National District Attorneys Association to modernize law enforcement practices to protect crime victims across the nation.

ENDORSEMENTS:

80+ Law Enforcement Leaders

Crime Victims United of Oregon

Oregon's Sheriffs

Oregon Fraternal Order of Police

National Federation of Independent Businesses/OR PAC

Defend Small Business PAC

Oregon Farm Bureau Federation

www.WillLathrop.com

(This information furnished by Friends of Will Lathrop.)

Attorney General

Dan Rayfield

Democrat
Working Families

Occupation: Attorney; State Representative

Occupational Background: Attorney

Educational Background: JD, Willamette University College of Law; BS, Western Oregon University

Prior Governmental Experience: Speaker of the Oregon House; State Representative; Commissioner, Linn-Benton Housing Authority

"Dan has a record of standing up for Oregonians, holding government accountable, and bringing people together to make our communities stronger. As Attorney General, Dan will defend Oregon from national attacks on abortion rights, protect consumers, and keep our communities safe."

- U.S. Senator Ron Wyden

DELIVERING FOR ALL OREGONIANS

As an experienced attorney and former Speaker of the Oregon House, Dan delivered for Oregonians by:

- Expanding access to health care, increasing funding for schools, and raising the minimum wage.
- Partnering with law enforcement to give them better tools to get hard drugs off our streets and more people into treatment.
- Protecting consumers with medical debt from predatory tactics and overwhelming fees.

AN AGENDA FOR A SAFER, STRONGER OREGON

Building Safer Communities: Dan will tackle the drug addiction, homelessness, and crime problems impacting our communities.

Defending Oregon from National Attacks: Dan will defend Oregon from national attacks on abortion rights, election laws, and our environment.

Keeping Kids Safe: Dan will work to keep kids safe from gun violence, trafficking, and internet crimes.

Looking Out for Seniors and Consumers: Dan will fight predatory lenders, scam artists, and abusive practices by insurance companies.

Protecting Our Environment: Dan will protect our air, water and land by holding polluters accountable.

"Frontline police officers support Dan because he has a track record of delivering results and working to make our communities safer."

- Retired Police Chief Nick Hurley

***Supporters*:**

Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum
Planned Parenthood PAC of Oregon
Oregon Alliance for Gun Safety
Oregon State Police Officers' Association
Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs
Oregon State Fire Fighters Council
Oregon Nurses Association
Oregon League of Conservation Voters
Oregon Education Association - PAC
Basic Rights Oregon PAC
SEIU Oregon
Oregon AFSCME
Oregon AFL-CIO

See entire list: DanRayfield.com

(This information furnished by Friends of Dan Rayfield.)

Update your registration if you are away from home

The post office will not forward your ballot.

You can request an **absentee ballot** if you will not be home during an election. The ballot will be sent to the address you provide.

for more information about voting in Oregon

oregonvotes.gov

1 866 673 8683
se habla español

TTY **1 800 735 2900**
for the hearing impaired

State Representative, 31st District

Darcey Edwards

Republican

Occupation: Small Business Owner, Edwards Realty Trust

Occupational Background: Real Estate, Economic Development, Tech, Non-Profit Leadership

Educational Background: Banks High School

Prior Governmental Experience: NA

Common Sense Leadership for a Stronger Oregon

I'm proud to be a native Northwestern Oregonian, mom, wife, small business owner, and nonprofit volunteer. As state representative, I will fight for our shared values and ensure every voice is heard.

- **Fully funding and supporting public safety,** providing the resources and training needed at all levels to keep us safe.
- **Addressing our housing crisis** by combining housing initiatives with mental health and addiction services to reduce homelessness and make housing more accessible.
- **Supporting small businesses**, while encouraging innovation and new opportunities. Our economy thrives when our businesses succeed.
- **Improving infrastructure** by increasing funding for Highway 30 and other road projects to ensure safer travel, reduced congestion, and support the long-term vitality of our region.
- **Advocating for agriculture** by ensuring our natural resources industries have support to thrive now and for future generations.
- **Reducing wasteful spending** by opposing new taxes, and ensuring every hard-earned dollar is used efficiently. Oregon has a spending problem, not a revenue problem.
- **Enhancing education** through supporting school choice, technical education, trades, and post-secondary education, and raising the standards for students and educators alike.
- **Protecting individual rights** against government intrusion. I will work tirelessly to ensure fundamental freedoms are respected and preserved.

With your support and your vote, these goals can become our reality, and we can make Oregon a more vibrant place to live, work, and raise our families once again.
DarceyForOregon.com

Proudly endorsed by individuals, community leaders, and organizations who want common sense, experienced leadership for a stronger Oregon.

Washington County Chamber of Commerce PAC
Oregon Business and Industry PAC
Taxpayer Association of Oregon
Defend Small Business PAC
Oregon Farm Bureau Federation
Associated Oregon Loggers
Oregon Cattlemen's Association
Oregon Nurseries' PAC
AG-PAC
Timber Unity PAC
Oregon Right to Life PAC
Oregon's Sheriffs
Oregon Chiefs of Police Association

(This information furnished by Darcey for Oregon.)

State Representative, 32nd District

Cyrus B Javadi

Republican

Occupation: State Representative; Dentist/Owner, SandCreek Dental

Occupational Background: Dentist

Educational Background: DDS, University of the Pacific; BS, Brigham Young University

Prior Governmental Experience: State Representative; Dental Director, Tillamook County Health Department; Commissioner, Port of Tillamook

"Cyrus works across the aisle to get things done."
-Betsy Johnson, former Democrat State Senator

North Coast First

Our coastal communities face immense challenges, but I'm not one to sit back. I've delivered real results to protect our way of life. Whether it's cutting taxes for middle-class families, safeguarding rural jobs, or making our streets safer, my commitment is unwavering: I'm fighting for you.

I fought for a revised Habitat Conservation Plan that wouldn't jeopardize coastal jobs or community funding. I'm dedicated to protecting our natural resources while ensuring our communities aren't left behind. With strong leadership, we can restore funding for vital services like law enforcement and schools, securing a brighter North Coast future.

Effective, Bipartisan Leadership

In my first term, I've shown leadership is about action, not talk. I've tackled tough problems working across party lines to deliver results:

- **CRUSHING DRUG ABUSE**: I helped re-criminalize hard drugs, targeted fentanyl, and expanded treatment to reclaim our streets.
- **LANDMARK HOUSING REFORM**: I passed historic housing reforms that cut costs, unlocked land for coastal communities, and expanded homeless services to rebuild lives.
- **PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN**: I strengthened laws to shield stalking victims and kicked predators out of our schools, ensuring the safety of our kids.
- **CUTTING HEALTHCARE COSTS**: I reformed high-cost prescription drug coverage, making essential medications affordable for those who need them most.
- **CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES**: I drove initiatives putting rural broadband expansion on the fast track, bridging the digital divide.

Endorsements:
Senator Suzanne Weber
Clatsop County Commissioners Courtney Bangs and John Toyooka
Cary Johnson (Local Homebuilder)
Oregon's Sheriffs
Oregon Chiefs of Police Association
Oregon Cattlemen's Association
Associated Oregon Loggers
Oregon Farm Bureau Federation
Defend Small Business PAC
Taxpayers Association of Oregon
Crime Victims United of Oregon
ORCOPS

www.cyrusfororegon.com

(This information furnished by Dr. Cyrus Javadi.)

State Representative, 32nd District

Andy Davis

Democrat
Working Families

Occupation: Research Analyst, Oregon Health Authority; Astoria City Councilor, Ward 1

Occupational Background: Healthcare analysis focused on improving outcomes, strengthening the workforce, and improving access to care.

Educational Background: BA Religion, Wabash College. Graduate studies in Public Administration at Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

Prior Governmental Experience: Astoria City Council, Astoria Budget Committee, Clatsop County Budget Committee Chair, and Clatsop County Comprehensive Plan Update Citizen Advisory Committee Chair.

"I'm running to help folks succeed in the new economy and ensure family-run businesses that make the North Coast special stay afloat. I'll fight for the needs of our community and people to be taken seriously in Salem." -Andy

Our Representative missed 230 votes last session—we deserve better. **On the Astoria City Council and as the Clatsop County Budget Chair, I have proven I can work with others to deliver results.** I voted to ensure police, firefighters, and first responders have the resources they need to do their jobs. I will always put our community first, and vote to keep us safe.

As state representative, I will work with anyone who is serious about tackling our tough challenges:

- Improve and fund public schools, including our two community colleges
- Reduce barriers to affordable development and fund workforce housing
- Protect and maintain our local water supplies
- Expand healthcare access and address the mental health and addiction crisis
- Invest in skills and job training programs to help folks transition to the new economy
- Cut red tape and oppose tax increases to help small businesses prosper
- Advocate for transportation dollars to fix our roads

It is more important than ever to protect the right to choose.

With the threat of a national ban on abortion including in Oregon, I am committed to protecting access to abortion and reproductive healthcare. I am **proudly endorsed by Planned Parenthood PAC of Oregon**.

Endorsements:

Senator Ron Wyden

U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley

Oregon AFSCME

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

Additional endorsements at Davis4Oregon.com

(This information furnished by Andy Davis for Oregon.)

Judge of the Supreme Court, Position 1

Stephen K Bushong

Nonpartisan

Occupation: Oregon Supreme Court Justice

Occupational Background: Oregon Supreme Court Justice, January 2, 2023, to present. Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge, 2008-2022. Oregon Department of Justice, 1994-2008. Private law practice, 1985-1994.

Educational Background: University of Michigan Law School, J.D. 1984; University of Michigan, B.A. 1980

Prior Governmental Experience: Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge, 2008-2022. Oregon Department of Justice, 1994-2008.

Experience

- Oregon Supreme Court Justice since January 2023
- 15 years' experience as a trial judge
- Chief Civil Judge 2013-2017
- Presiding Judge 2018-2022
- Chief Trial Counsel, Oregon Department of Justice 2005-2008
- Attorney-in-Charge, Special Litigation Unit, Oregon Department of Justice 1998-2005
- 9 years' experience in private law practice

Service

- Oregon Rules of Appellate Practice Committee Chair 2023-present
- Oregon Law Commission 2012-2023
- Uniform Trial Court Rules Committee 2018-2022
- Uniform Civil Jury Instructions Committee 2010-2012
- Multnomah Bar Association Professionalism Committee 2009-2012
- Oregon State Bar Litigation Section Executive Committee 2004-2008
- Oregon State Bar Government Law Section Executive Committee 2005-2007
- Coach of Franklin High School's "We the People" constitution team 2010-2022
- Youth Baseball Coach 1993-2001

Statement

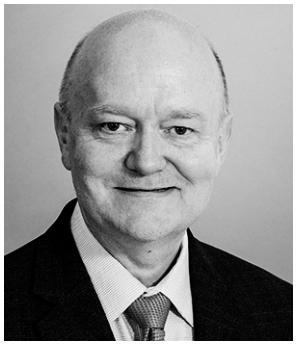
After serving as a trial judge for 15 years, I am honored to serve as a justice on the Oregon Supreme Court. I'm committed to applying the rule of law fairly and impartially in each case that comes to the court. I promise to deliberate with an open mind and consider alternative points of view, and to do my best to ensure that the court's decisions are grounded in principle based on the facts and the law, not on any outside influences or political pressures. I also pledge to do my best to foster public confidence in our judiciary by working to improve our system of justice so that we can fully realize our consitution's promise of liberty, justice, and equality for all.

Endorsements

- Former Governor Barbara Roberts
- Former Governor Ted Kulongoski
- Former Chief Justices Paul DeMuniz, Thomas Balmer, and Martha Walters
- Senior Justices Rives Kistler, Robert Durham, and Richard Baldwin
- Chief Justice Meagan Flynn

(This information furnished by Elect Justice Steve Bushong Committee.)

Judge of the Supreme Court, Position 7



Bronson D James

Nonpartisan

Occupation: Judge, Oregon Supreme Court 2023 - present; Adjunct Professor of Evidence and Oregon Constitutional Law, Lewis and Clark Law School 2022-present.

Occupational Background: Judge, Oregon Supreme Court 2023-present; Judge, Oregon Court of Appeals 2017-2023; Judge, Multnomah County Circuit Court 2016 - 2017; Private practice 2010-2016; Oregon Office of Public Defense Services 2005-2010, General Counsel, iPSpecialties, LLC., 2003-2005

Educational Background: B.A. Reed College 1994; J.D. Lewis and Clark Law School, 2003

Prior Governmental Experience: Chair, Oregon Supreme Court Council on Inclusion and Fairness; Justice Reinvestment Grant Review Committee, Criminal Justice Advisory Committee; Judicial Leadership and Education Committee; Unconscious Bias Committee; Unlawful Practice of Law Committee; Uniform Criminal Jury Instruction Committee; Oregon State Bar Disciplinary Board

TRUSTED. THOUGHFUL. FAIR.

Bronson James grew up in Talent, Oregon. His family has lived and worked in Oregon for generations, from farming in the Klamath Basin, to working in timber camps as far north as Astoria. He is currently the only member of the Oregon Supreme Court to hail from Southern Oregon.

He graduated from Reed College, then worked for six years in the technology sector, both in the United States and abroad, specializing in data security and privacy. He left his corporate career to attend law school in 2000.

Bronson built a legal career helping Oregonians seek justice, as a public defender, an immigration attorney, and a civil rights litigator. He is passionate about the law working equally for all Oregonians. He served as a trial court judge in Multnomah County, then as a judge on the Oregon Court of Appeals. In 2023 he was appointed to serve as a Justice on the Oregon Supreme Court.

In addition to his other activities, he is an adjunct professor of law at Lewis and Clark Law School where he teaches Oregon Constitutional Law and Evidence, and coaches high school mock trial with the Civics Learning Project. He is a frequent speaker in the area of digital privacy law.

(This information furnished by Bronson D James.)

Judge of the Circuit Court, 19th District, Position 1

Nick Brajcich

Nonpartisan

No Photo Submitted

Occupation: Circuit Court Judge, Columbia County

Occupational Background: Attorney since 2012. Prior experience as a courtroom clerk, insurance claims adjuster and napkin machine operator

Educational Background: 1996 graduate, Clatskanie High School; 2000 B.A. Willamette University (double major in politics and history); 2012 J.D. Willamette University College of Law

Prior Governmental Experience: 2014-2024 Deputy District Attorney, Columbia County; 2006-2009 Courtroom Clerk, Washington County

Related Experience:

Columbia County Bar Association President 2016, 2017, 2021, 2022, 2024 (Jan-June)

Columbia County Legal Aid Board Member 2018 - June 2024 (President 2019-2023)

Participant in the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (2022-current)

Integrity, Accountability and Commitment to Our Community

Judge Brajcich understands the local dynamics from both a professional and personal perspective, having been raised in Clatskanie and working in public service in this county for the past decade, he is firmly rooted in Columbia County. He has developed an excellent reputation within the Columbia County legal community. He has earned the trust and respect of local law enforcment. He has established relationships with community partners in the fields of substance abuse treatment and mental health treatment. Judge Brajcich brings pragmatism, reasonableness and professionalism to the bench, qualities he has exhibited throughout his legal career. Judge Brajcich possesses the strength and intregrity to make difficult decisions, hold people accountable and make Columbia County a better, safer place to live.

(This information furnished by Nickolas Brajcich.)

House Joint Resolution 16 - Referred at the 82nd Legislative Assembly's 2023 Regular Session to the Voters of the State of Oregon for their approval or rejection at the November 5, 2024, General Election.

Measure No.

115

Amends Constitution: Authorizes impeachment of statewide elected officials by Oregon Legislature with two-thirds vote by each House; establishes process

Result of "Yes" Vote

"Yes" vote authorizes and establishes a process for the Oregon Legislature to impeach statewide elected officials; House initiates impeachment with two-thirds vote; Senate tries and convicts with two-thirds vote; Chief Justice of Oregon Supreme Court oversees impeachment trial.

Result of "No" Vote

"No" vote retains current law that does not authorize the Oregon Legislature to impeach and remove statewide elected officials.

Summary

Amends the Oregon Constitution to grant the Oregon House of Representatives the power to impeach statewide elected officials in the executive branch, and to grant the Oregon Senate the power to try an impeachment received from the House. Currently, the statewide elected officials of the executive branch are the Governor, the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the Attorney General and the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries. At present, the only way to remove these officials is through recall election. The measure permits the House to impeach for malfeasance, corrupt conduct in office, willful neglect of constitutional duty or other felony or high crime. Requires "yes" vote of at least two-thirds (40) of Representatives to send impeachment resolution to Senate. Requires Senate to conduct impeachment trial and requires "yes" vote of at least two-thirds (20) of Senators to convict. The Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court would preside over an impeachment trial. A convicted official is removed from office and disqualified from other public office.

Estimate of Financial Impact

This measure amends the constitution to allow the House of Representatives to impeach statewide elected officials. The measure requires the Senate to try any impeachment received from the House. The Chief Justice presides over the trial. The financial impact on state government is indeterminate because impeachment trials do not have a set length and could happen outside of regularly scheduled sessions. There is no fiscal impact on local governments.

Committee Members:
Secretary of State LaVonne Griffin-Valade
State Treasurer Tobias Read
Berri Leslie, Director, Dept. of Administrative Services
Betsy Imholt, Director, Dept. of Revenue
Ernest Stephens, Local Government Representative

(The estimate of financial impact was provided by the above committee pursuant to ORS 250.127.)

Text of Measure

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

PARAGRAPH 1. The Constitution of the State of Oregon is amended by creating a new section 34 to be added to and made a part of Article IV, such section to read:

SECTION 34. (1) The House of Representatives shall have the power of impeachment of statewide elected officials of the Executive Branch for malfeasance or corrupt conduct in office, willful neglect of statutory or constitutional duty or other felony or high crime. The House of Representatives may deliver a resolution of impeachment to the Senate only upon the concurrence of at least two-thirds of all Representatives.

(2) The Senate shall have the power to try any impeachment received from the House of Representatives. When sitting for the purpose of trying an impeachment, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall preside and Senators shall swear or affirm to do justice according to law and evidence. A person may not be convicted under this section without the concurrence of at least two-thirds of all Senators.

(3) Judgment shall extend only to removal from office and disqualification from holding any other public office in this state. Any person convicted or acquitted under this section remains subject to any criminal prosecution or civil liability according to law.

(4) Section 10a of this Article may be invoked for the purpose of exercising the power of impeachment under this section.

PARAGRAPH 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout this state.

Note: **Boldfaced** type indicates new language; [*brackets and italic*] type indicates deletions or comments.

Explanatory Statement

Ballot Measure 115 amends the Oregon Constitution to grant the Oregon House of Representatives the power to impeach statewide elected officials in the executive branch, and to grant the Oregon Senate the power to try any impeachment received from the House of Representatives.

The Oregon Constitution currently reserves to voters the power to recall public officials, including statewide elected officials in the executive branch, but does not authorize either chamber of the Legislative Assembly to impeach statewide elected officials. At present, the statewide elected officials in the executive branch consist of the Governor, the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the Attorney General and the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries.

Ballot Measure 115 authorizes the House of Representatives to impeach a statewide elected official for malfeasance or corrupt conduct in office, willful neglect of constitutional duty or other felony or high crime. The measure does not define these terms, permitting the House of Representatives to determine whether particular conduct amounts to an impeachable offense. The measure requires at least two-thirds of all Representatives (40 Representatives) to pass an impeachment resolution and deliver it to the Senate.

Ballot Measure 115 empowers the Senate to try any impeachment received from the House of Representatives. The measure directs the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court to preside over an impeachment trial. The measure requires at least two-thirds of all Senators (20 Senators) to convict an accused statewide elected official. If an accused statewide elected official is convicted, the judgment of conviction is limited to the official being removed from office and disqualified from holding any other public office in this state. However, an impeachment conviction under the measure would not shield the impeached official from criminal prosecution or civil liability.

Committee Members:	**Appointed by:**
Senator Tim Knopp	President of the Senate
Senator Kate Lieber	President of the Senate
Senator James Manning Jr.	President of the Senate
Representative Ben Bowman	Speaker of the House
Representative Paul Holvey	Speaker of the House
Representative Kim Wallan	Speaker of the House

(The above committee was appointed to provide an impartial explanation of the ballot measure pursuant to Chapter 366, Oregon Laws (2023).)

Legislative Argument in Support

We may disagree on some things, but Oregonians are united in their belief that government should be transparent, efficient, and accountable. Currently, Oregon is the only state in the nation that doesn't have an impeachment process in place for executive officials, making us an outlier among other states. Ballot Measure 115 will add this common sense safeguard to the Oregon Constitution as a tool that can be used by legislators when necessary. We strongly encourage voters to support this measure.

The Oregon Legislature referred this Constitutional Amendment to the ballot because we believe that Oregonians deserve to know that their elected leaders can be held accountable for egregious misbehavior. This measure would institute an impeachment provision for statewide elected officials of the Executive Branch, including the Governor, Treasurer, and Secretary of State.

However, we also wanted to ensure that the impeachment tool won't be misused or abused for partisan political purposes, so we built in some safeguards that are in line with successful policies in other states. First, a two-thirds majority in the House is required to begin impeachment proceedings. A two-thirds vote in the Senate is required for a conviction. The Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court would oversee the Senate trial, further removing partisan bias.

It's well past time for Oregon to join every other state in the nation and encode an impeachment provision to the state's constitution. Please join us in voting yes.

Committee Members:	**Appointed by:**
Senator Kathleen Taylor	President of the Senate
Representative Ben Bowman	Speaker of the House
Representative Kim Wallan	Speaker of the House

(This Joint Legislative Committee was appointed to provide the legislative argument in support of the ballot measure pursuant to ORS 251.245.)

Argument in Favor

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges a YES vote on Measure 115

Oregon is the only state in the nation that doesn't have an impeachment process.

Right now, a recall is the only option to oust a corrupt politician. Our elected representatives and senators in the Legislature have no power to check the abuses of power of the executive branch.

Oregonians deserve a way to hold corrupt elected officials accountable!

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 115

Visit us on our daily political news website OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years.

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

Please consider this measure carefully before voting on it.

Many well-meaning individuals are supporting measure 115 because they think it will increase accountability for our elected officials. This is always a good thing if it actually works.

In 2023 Oregon's Secretary of State resigned, and many legislators felt that the ability to remove her from office with a 2/3 vote in each house would be beneficial. It would not have mattered because she resigned, but they argue that she might not have.

There are, however, very sound arguments against allowing the legislature to remove state-wide elected officials. Our state-wide officials are elected directly by the voters. The current system of requiring the voters to decide on a recall is better. Voters elect them, and voters should remove them if necessary.

Furthermore, the executive branch is supposed to be independent of the legislature. Political scandals are easily generated, and excuses for recalling officials are plentiful. Will the governor fear that a veto of a popular bill could result in a recall? It is quite plausible.

Right now, a single party controls all statewide offices and both houses of the legislature, but this may not always be the case. Do we want one party using this provision to target the other party without a vote of the people? It has already been demonstrated that they will do this if they can.

Oregon has been a state for 165 years, and there simply aren't examples where this provision was necessary. It would be wiser to leave the recall procedures alone.

I recommend a NO on measure 115.

Noah Robinson, PhD
State Senate Candidate, District 2

(This information furnished by Noah Robinson, Noah Robinson for Oregon Senate.)

Senate Joint Resolution 34 - Referred at the 82nd Legislative Assembly's 2023 Regular Session to the Voters of the State of Oregon for their approval or rejection at the November 5, 2024, General Election.

Measure No.

116

Amends Constitution: Establishes "Independent Public Service Compensation Commission" to determine salaries for specified officials; eliminates legislative authority to set such salaries

Result of "Yes" Vote

"Yes" vote amends Oregon Constitution to establish a commission to determine salaries paid by state to specified officials, replacing current practice of establishing such salaries by legislation; provides that determinations of the commission are automatically funded.

Result of "No" Vote

"No" vote retains current law whereby salaries paid by state to specified officials are established by legislation.

Summary

Under current law, the salaries paid by the state to many public officials are set by statute and can be changed only through legislation. This measure authorizes establishment of a body named the Independent Public Service Compensation Commission to determine salaries paid by the state to the Governor, the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the Attorney General, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries, judges of the Supreme Court, judges of other courts under the administration of the judicial branch of state government, state Senators, state Representatives and district attorneys. Determinations of the commission would not be subject to review or modification by the Legislative Assembly, the Governor or any other official. The measure provides that the membership of the commission is to be established by law, except that the following classes of individuals are ineligible for membership: officers and employees of the state, lobbyists, and immediate family members of such officers, employees and lobbyists. The measure provides that moneys sufficient to pay for the commission's salary determinations are automatically appropriated from the General Fund without the need for a further appropriation by law.

Estimate of Financial Impact

This measure amends the Constitution to create a Commission responsible for deciding the salaries of certain elected officials. The money for the salaries will come from the General Fund. The measure itself does not decide the moneys needed to cover the salaries. The fiscal impact to the state, for chosen salaries and commission staff, could not be determined. There is no fiscal impact on local governments.

Committee Members:
Secretary of State LaVonne Griffin-Valade
State Treasurer Tobias Read
Berri Leslie, Director, Dept. of Administrative Services
Betsy Imholt, Director, Dept. of Revenue
Ernest Stephens, Local Government Representative

(The estimate of financial impact was provided by the above committee pursuant to ORS 250.127.)

Text of Measure

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

PARAGRAPH 1. The Constitution of the State of Oregon is amended by creating a new section 2 to be added to and made a part of Article XIII, such section to read:

SECTION 2. (1) The Independent Public Service Compensation Commission is to be established in the manner provided by law.

(2) None of the following may be a member of the commission:

(a) An officer or employee of the State of Oregon;

(b) An individual required by law to register with any state agency as a lobbyist; or

(c) An immediate family member of an individual described in paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection.

(3) The Legislative Assembly may, by law, establish classes of individuals ineligible for membership on the commission in addition to those specified in subsection (2) of this section.

(4)(a) Once established, the commission shall determine the amounts of the salaries to be paid to the officials specified in subsection (5) of this section, notwithstanding section 29, Article IV, and section 1, Article VII (Amended) of this Constitution. The determinations of the commission constitute the salaries to be paid by the state to the specified officials.

(b) The commission shall make its determinations before January 30 of each odd-numbered year to be effective for the biennium beginning July 1 of that year.

(5) The commission shall establish salaries for the following officials:

(a) Governor;

(b) Secretary of State;

(c) State Treasurer;

(d) Attorney General;

(e) Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries or any successor agency;

(f) Judges of the Supreme Court;

(g) Judges of other courts under the administration of the judicial branch of state government;

(h) State Senator;

(i) State Representative; and

(j) District attorneys.

(6) The commission may establish different salaries for different classes of officials within the categories described in paragraphs (f) to (j) of subsection (5) of this section.

(7) The compensation of a judge shall not be diminished during the term for which the judge is elected.

(8) Upon the commission's adoption of its determinations, moneys sufficient to pay the salaries determined by the commission are deemed to be appropriated from the General Fund for the biennium in which the determinations are effective, notwithstanding section 4, Article IX of this Constitution.

(9) Nothing in this section creates or requires the creation of any state office.

PARAGRAPH 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout this state.

Note: **Boldfaced** type indicates new language; [*brackets and italic*] type indicates deletions or comments.

Explanatory Statement

Under current law, legislators establish their own salaries, as well as the salaries paid by the state to many other public officials, by statute. The salaries can be changed only through legislation.

Ballot Measure 116 amends the Oregon Constitution to establish a new body named the Independent Public Service Compensation Commission to determine the salaries paid by the state to the Governor, the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the Attorney General, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries, judges of the Supreme Court, judges of other courts under the administration of the judicial branch of state government, state Senators, state Representatives and district attorneys. The commission's salary determinations would be final and would not be subject to review or modification by the Legislative Assembly, the Governor or any other official.

The measure prohibits officers and employees of the state, lobbyists and immediate family members of such officers, employees and lobbyists from serving on the Independent Public Service Compensation Commission. The measure allows the Legislative Assembly to establish additional classes of individuals who are ineligible for membership on the commission. Membership of the commission is to be established by law.

The measure provides that moneys sufficient to pay the salaries determined by the Independent Public Service Compensation Commission are automatically appropriated from the state's General Fund without the need for any action by the Legislative Assembly, the Governor or any other official. This is an exception to the general requirement of Article IX, section 4, of the Oregon Constitution, that an appropriation by law is necessary to expend moneys from the State Treasury.

Committee Members:	**Appointed by:**
Senator Tim Knopp	President of the Senate
Senator Kate Lieber	President of the Senate
Senator James Manning Jr.	President of the Senate
Representative Ben Bowman	Speaker of the House
Representative Paul Holvey	Speaker of the House
Representative Kim Wallan	Speaker of the House

(The above committee was appointed to provide an impartial explanation of the ballot measure pursuant to Chapter 366, Oregon Laws (2023).)

Legislative Argument in Support

It's common sense: Lawmakers shouldn't be able to set their own salaries. Under current law, state legislators have the authority—and sole responsibility—of setting salary rates for themselves and other elected leaders, creating an incentive for self-serving decisions and political games.

Passing Measure 116 will finally remove this power from politicians and put these decisions where they belong: in the hands of everyday Oregonians. Measure 116 creates an independent commission that will set salary rates for legislators, statewide elected leaders, judges, and district attorneys. The independent commission will have the authority to directly allocate funding for these positions, preventing politicians from meddling in the process.

Measure 116 creates clear guidelines for who can't serve on the commission: no state employees or legislators, no lobbyists, and no family members of state employees, legislators, or lobbyists. This commission will be independent, fair, transparent, and impartial.

Oregonians deserve to know that their elected leaders are looking out for the community's best interests, not their own. By passing Measure 116, voters will no longer have to worry about their representatives voting to give themselves a raise. If this measure passes, Oregonians will have the opportunity to have members on the commission who will be able to research comparable pay for these positions from other states so we can make sure our salaries are appropriate and competitive. This makes far more sense than allowing salaries to be set by politicians.

We urge a yes vote on Measure 116.

Committee Members:	**Appointed by:**
Senator Kathleen Taylor	President of the Senate
Representative Ben Bowman	Speaker of the House
Representative Kim Wallan	Speaker of the House

(This Joint Legislative Committee was appointed to provide the legislative argument in support of the ballot measure pursuant to ORS 251.245.)

Argument in Favor

Vote Yes on 116 for Fairness

The Women's Foundation of Oregon

Family Forward Action

As advocates for women, mothers, and caregivers, we are voting Yes on 116!

Voting Yes on 116 will:

- create an independent commission that sets the pay for statewide elected officials
- remove lawmakers' power to set their own pay.
- put everyday Oregonians in charge of setting pay for elected officials
- bring more fairness and accountability to our government

Women belong in every room where decisions are made. Historically, women have had to fight for our right to speak and be heard, to vote, to run for office, and to be public servants. In our representative democracy, women must have an equal role in making the decisions that affect our day-to-day lives.

In 2022, three talented Oregon lawmakers stepped down from their posts because they could not afford to support their families. All three were mothers, and they cited the high cost of child care as one of the main factors behind their decisions. Oregon legislators earn $32,839 annually for full-time work. According to Child Care Aware America, the average cost of child care in Oregon is $801 a month per child, or $9,612 annually. This means a legislator with two children in day care would have just $13,615 annually for housing, food, and other expenses.

Women bear a disproportionate burden of the challenges that Oregon faces currently, such as a severe lack of affordable housing and child care, and women must have an equal say in how we address these issues. We cannot allow women to be discouraged from seeking public office by low pay, which is itself a significant driver of gender inequality.

Voting Yes on 116 will:

- Open the doors for more women, and more diverse women, to serve in elected office
- Make public service more accessible for low-income women and women with caretaking responsibilities
- Bring more fairness and equality to our democracy.

(This information furnished by Isabela m Villarreal, The People's Independent Commission.)

Argument in Favor

Why Small Business Owners Support Yes on 116

At Peoria Gardens in Albany, we are a second-generation family farm that employs 24 people year-round and has an additional 26 seasonal employees.
We support Yes on 116 to create the People's Independent Commission because:

- No one should get to set their own salary
- We need more fairness and accountability in government
- Democracy is stronger when everyone has a seat at the table

As business owners, we understand the importance of checks and balances. Just as we're accountable to our customers and employees, our elected officials should be accountable to the people they serve.

Business owners are the engine of Oregon's economy, and we share a commitment to fairness and transparency across the board. Fair pay set by an independent commission can help attract talented individuals from the business world and other sectors to public service, and lead to more informed decision-making on economic policies that affect our businesses and communities. Diverse perspectives mean better problem-solving, no matter the challenge at hand.

The People's Independent Commission will remove lawmakers' power to set their own pay, ensuring a more equitable and trustworthy system that aligns with sound business practices.

Kathryn Weeks & Ben Verhoeven

Peoria Gardens, Inc.

Albany, Oregon

(This information furnished by Ali VZ Mayeda, People's Independent Commission.)

Argument in Favor

Yes on 116
Rural Oregonians Back The People's Independent Commission

When it comes to decisions that make the biggest difference to rural Oregonians, rural folks often don't get a seat at the table. We resource rural Oregonians with the tools they need to fight for human dignity, safe and welcoming communities, and a vibrant and just democracy.

More than 75 groups and thousands of community leaders are part of the Rural Organizing Project, working together to advance democracy in small-town and rural Oregon, from the southern coast to the Wallowa mountains and every rural place in between.

More Fairness, More Accountability

Rural Oregonians work hard to take care of our families and communities. That's our way of life. State legislators earn a salary of only $35,000 a year while they work long hours in the legislature, listen to those they represent, and make informed decisions on our behalf. Setting salaries that reflect the job responsibilities would help attract and keep highly qualified people in those offices, including people raising families or paying off student debt.

Good for Rural Oregon

We work to hold legislators accountable to rural Oregon. The People's Independent Commission will be an improvement for accountability and transparency. It will help make sure legislators are accountable to us, their constituents, and not wealthy donors. It will help ensure legislators listen to rural, frontier, and small-town Oregon and our unique priorities.

Good for Democracy

The People's Independent Commission is a simple and important step to protect our democracy, hold elected officials accountable, and give power back to everyday people. Voting Yes on 116 will create an independent commission that sets the pay for statewide elected officials, including state legislators, the Governor, and state judges. It will remove lawmakers' power to set their own pay.

As rural Oregonians, we are voting yes on 116 because it is good for democracy.

(This information furnished by Ali VZ Mayeda, People's Independent Commission.)

Argument in Favor

Yes on 116: The People's Independent Commission

The People's Independent Commission is a commonsense solution to give power back to the people and protect our democracy. It's good for Oregon!

Yes on 116: The People's Independent Commission is endorsed by a growing coalition of community organizations, including pro-democracy organizations, labor organizations, culturally specific organizations, and Oregon's philanthropic community.

More information at VoteYesOn116.Org

We are voting YES on 116 because it will:

- Hold Leaders Accountable
- Put Oregonians in Charge
- Strengthen Democracy
- Make Government More Fair

We are voting YES on 116!

American Federation of Teachers—Oregon

APANO

Democratic Party of Oregon

East County Rising

Family Forward Action

Latino Network

NAYA Action Fund

Next Up Action Fund

Oregon AFL-CIO

Oregon AFSCME

Oregon Center for Voting & Elections

Oregon Education Association

Oregon Futures Lab

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

Oregon Nurses Association

Oregon State Voice

Partnership for Safety and Justice

PCUN

SEIU Oregon

Tribal Democracy Project

UFCW 555

Urban League of Portland

Women's Foundation of Oregon

Working Families Party of Oregon

For a full list of endorsing organizations, visit **VoteYesOn116.Org**

(This information furnished by Isabela m Villarreal, The People's Independent Commission.)

Argument in Favor

Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum Supports Yes on 116

The goal of any public servant in our state should be simple: Make life better for all Oregonians. This has been my North Star throughout my tenure as your Attorney General.

In my remaining months in office, I'm focused on the future. What can we do to make our state more successful and serve our people better?

What problems can we address now?

Here's one: **Voting Yes on 116** is an obvious solution to a longstanding issue in Oregon.

The People's Independent Commission that Measure 116 would create represents sound policy — and will strengthen our democracy. By passing this measure, Oregon will join 22 other states that have established independent commissions to enhance faith in government and ensure salary decisions are transparent and impartial.

Measure 116 will ensure that all statewide elected officials — including Oregon's future Attorneys General —stay true to the spirit of public service and always serve the public good.

Ellen Rosenblum has been Oregon's Attorney General for the past twelve years. In this role she has served as the state's chief legal officer, protected consumers and civil rights, secured significant monetary settlements and restitution for Oregonians and provided legal counsel to state government on a wide range of issues.

(This information furnished by Ali VZ Mayeda, People's Independent Commission.)

Argument in Favor

Working Families Are Voting Yes on 116

Union members and working families across Oregon are supporting Yes on 116!

We are:

- Nurses
- Teachers
- Farmworkers
- Union members
- Working families

We believe in:

- Fairness
- Accountability
- Democracy that works for all of us

Our fight for working families is about building an Oregon that truly represents everyone. We want elected officials who understand our challenges because they've lived them. Voting Yes on 116 is a crucial step towards increasing representation of working families in the Oregon legislature and all statewide elected positions.

As union members, we've seen firsthand how a stronger voice leads to positive change. The People's Independent Commission is a commonsense solution that will amplify the voices of working families in our government. By putting regular people in charge of setting politician pay, we're removing a clear conflict of interest and ensuring our representatives are accountable to us, not wealthy donors.

We are voting Yes on 116 because we want to:

- Put regular people in charge
- Remove lawmakers' power to set their own pay
- Ensure politicians answer to the people, not donors and corporations
- Keep our democracy healthy

Join Us and Vote YES on 116!

American Federation of Teachers, Oregon

Oregon AFSCME

Oregon AFL-CIO

Oregon Education Association

Oregon Nurses Association

PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker Union

SEIU Oregon

UFCW 555

Working Families Party Oregon

(This information furnished by Isabela m Villarreal, The People's Independent Commission.)

Argument in Favor

Former Chief Justices Support Yes on 116

By Martha Walters (Oregon Chief Justice from 2018 to 2022) & Tom Balmer (Oregon Chief Justice from 2012 to 2018)

As the two most recent former Chief Justices, we support Yes on 116. This measure will help ensure that we have a strong judiciary for years to come.

Measure 116 will establish an Independent Public Service Compensation Commission to determine salaries for specified elected officials, including judges. Currently, judicial salaries are set by the Legislature, and, according to information from the National Center for State Courts, Oregon's circuit court judicial salaries rank 45th in the nation, when adjusted for state cost-of-living differences.

The measure will create an objective, independent process to determine salaries, protected from political action. Importantly, the measure provides that the commission's salary determinations are final and not subject to review by the Legislature or the Governor. Additionally, the commission's salary determinations and funds sufficient to pay those salaries will automatically be appropriated from the state's General Fund.

Ballot Measure 116 was referred to the voters by the 2024 Legislative Assembly. Both the Senate and the House passed the referral by large, bipartisan margins. The system is similar to a commission in Washington State that has worked successfully for a number of years.

When we each served as Chief Justice, we worked with the Legislature to promote appropriate judicial compensation. Oregon lawyers don't become judges because they want to make more money. Judges are motivated by the opportunity for public service and the satisfaction of playing a role in our democratic system. But, under the current system, it is not uncommon for the trial judge to be the lowest paid lawyer in the room.

Measure 116 is a sensible reform that will strengthen our justice system and help attract excellent lawyers who reflect the diversity of practice experience and demographics of our state.

(This information furnished by Isabela m Villarreal, The People's Independent Commission.)

Argument in Favor

As a teacher, union member, and lifelong Oregonian, I'm voting Yes on 116 because I'm fed up with politicians setting their salaries.

It's ridiculous that teachers work so hard to make sure that our students have the resources they need to learn and grow, while politicians are just naming their price and signing their own paychecks.

I believe in the power of democracy. In 2022, I was one of 54 teachers nationwide selected for a prestigious fellowship, which is allowing me to pursue my master's in American history and government and become a stronger teacher.

I have been teaching for ten years, and every day, I teach my students that their voices matter, that they have the power to shape their communities, and that fairness matters. When I look at Oregon politicians setting their salaries, I don't see those principles in action.

Despite decades of advocacy and organizing by union members like me, education is still underfunded and teachers are still underpaid. Many of us struggle to make ends meet. Some of my colleagues work second jobs just to afford basic necessities. Many teachers pay out of pocket or crowdfund for basic school supplies.

How can we tell our students that fairness matters when their schools don't have what they need and politicians are out here setting their salaries with taxpayer dollars?

Unions give working people a voice, ensuring our concerns are heard and our rights protected. The People's Independent Commission proposed by Measure 116 embodies this same principle. It puts regular Oregonians in charge of setting politician pay, removing a clear conflict of interest.

As an educator, I teach about fairness every day. Join me in voting ***Yes* on 116** to make a fairer Oregon– one that lives up to the democratic ideals we teach in our classrooms.

Jessica Colburn

8th grade US History teacher

Deschutes County, Oregon

(This information furnished by Isabela m Villarreal, The People's Independent Commission.)

Argument in Favor

Yes on 116: The People's Independent Commission
Remove lawmakers' power to set their own pay

No one should get to set their salary, especially when paid with taxpayer dollars.

Voting Yes on 116 will create an independent commission that sets the pay for statewide elected officials, including state legislators, the Governor, and state judges. It will remove lawmakers' power to set their own pay.

Hold Leaders Accountable

Voting Yes on 116 will create an independent commission that sets the pay for statewide elected officials, including state legislators, the Governor, the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the Attorney General, Oregon Supreme Court judges, and others. Nationwide, 22 states have established independent commissions to make salary decisions fair and impartial.

Put Oregonians in Charge

The People's Independent Commission will put everyday Oregonians in charge of setting pay for elected officials, and bring more fairness and accountability to our government. People who serve on the commission cannot be state employees, lobbyists, or family members of politicians.

By the People, For the People

Public service should not be reserved for wealthy people. Oregon legislators earn $35,052 annually for full-time work. Low pay keeps many people from serving. Qualified legislators have even stepped down because they could not support their families. Voting Yes on 116 will make our democracy more accessible and more representative.

Good for Democracy

Our democracy is stronger when everyone is represented and everyone has a seat at the table. To solve the serious problems we face, we need legislators who understand our priorities and live them every day. Lawmakers make better decisions when people from all walks of life are represented.

To learn more, go to voteyeson116.org

(This information furnished by Isabela m Villarreal, The People's Independent Commission.)

Argument in Favor

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges a YES vote on Measure 116

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon believes state lawmakers' pay should be tied to the average wage of Oregonians. Under this model, lawmakers only get a raise when average Oregonians get a raise. If a recession causes our wages to shrink, then lawmakers' wages will be at the same rate.

This model removes the conflict of interest of having lawmakers vote on their own raises by instead tying it to the average Oregon wage. Measure 116 would make it easier for this model to be implemented.

Currently, state lawmakers' wages are below average, and that is for a job that works 50 hours a week on average. We need more everyday citizens to run for office. That won't happen if it doesn't pay the same wages that a typical job pays.

The current system also penalizes rural lawmakers who must travel up to five hours to get home on weekends. Decent pay on par with everyday Oregonians will help keep the door open for all citizens in rural Oregon who want to run for office.

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 116

Visit us on our daily political news website OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years.

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Favor

Vote Yes on 116: Empower Oregonians, Strengthen Our Democracy

As champions of democracy, we proudly endorse Yes on 116, the People's Independent Commission. This innovative reform puts the power where it belongs - in the hands of everyday Oregonians.

Why 116 Matters

- Ends the conflict of interest of elected officials setting their own pay
- Increases transparency and accountability in government
- Ensures fair compensation, attracting diverse, qualified candidates
- Aligns Oregon with best practices in good governance

A Stronger, More Representative Democracy

Measure 116 paves the way for broader representation. When our legislature reflects Oregon's diversity, we all benefit:

- More voices at the table lead to better solutions
- Legislators with varied life experiences understand our communities' needs
- Diverse perspectives drive innovation in policy-making

How the People's Independent Commission Works

- Sets pay for all statewide elected officials, including legislators, the Governor, and judges
- Removes lawmakers' power to determine their own salaries
- Ensures commission members are independent: no state employees, lobbyists, or politicians' family members

A Step Towards a More Perfect Democracy

Democracy thrives on accountability, accessibility, and transparency. Voting Yes on 116 isn't just about paychecks - it's about restoring faith in our democratic institutions. It's a practical step towards a government that truly represents all Oregonians, from the coast to the high desert.

Join us in strengthening Oregon's democracy. Vote Yes on 116.

Oregon State Voice

Oregon Futures Lab

Oregon Center for Voting & Elections

Tribal Democracy Project

(This information furnished by Isabela m Villarreal, The People's Independent Commission.)

Argument in Opposition

This measure was placed on the ballot by the Oregon legislature for political reasons.

It requires an appointed commission to set legislative and executive salaries for state elected office holders.

The reason for this commission is so that members of the legislator and the governor can have their salaries raised without taking responsibility for it.

It will cost more taxpayer dollars. This type of commission is usually paid, although we don't know what the final makeup would be.

Right now, the legislature is legally allowed to raise these salaries by majority vote. The salaries are high enough for those managing a bloated state government that is running inefficiently. They don't deserve more.

If they want higher pay, it should be done in a straightforward manner. Let them raise their salaries, vote for it, and explain their votes to the public.

Arguments are being made that an independent commission is needed so that experts will decide on salaries because the legislature isn't qualified to do so. This is nothing but political speak. The legislature spends hundreds of billions of dollars in tax money. If they aren't qualified to set their salaries, how can they be qualified to spend far larger quantities of tax money?

Don't let the legislators hide behind a commission to raise their own salaries. The legislature will almost certainly be involved in choosing the commission and setting its members' salary.

It's a Salem-type political game we should not allow them to play.

Please Vote NO on measure 116.

Noah Robinson, PhD
State Senate Candidate, District 2

(This information furnished by Noah Robinson, Noah Robinson for Oregon Senate.)

House Bill 2004 - Referred at the 82nd Legislative Assembly's 2023 Regular Session to the Voters of the State of Oregon for their approval or rejection at the November 5, 2024, General Election.

Measure No.

117

Gives voters option to rank candidates in order of preference; candidate receiving majority of votes in final round wins

Result of "Yes" Vote

"Yes" vote gives voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference for specified federal and statewide offices. Establishes process for tallying votes in rounds, with the candidate receiving the fewest votes in each round being defeated and votes for the defeated candidate going to the voter's next-highest ranked active candidate. Requires that candidate must receive majority of votes in final round of voting to win election.

Result of "No" Vote

"No" vote maintains current voting system. Voter selects one candidate for federal and statewide offices. Candidate with most votes wins. Majority of votes not required for candidate to win election.

Summary

Current state law requires voters to select only one candidate for each office on the ballot. The candidate with the most votes after a single vote tally wins, even if not a majority. This measure gives voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference using "ranked choice voting." Under the measure, voters may choose to rank only one candidate or multiple candidates for each office, as well as write in candidate(s). Votes are counted toward each voter's highest-ranked candidate. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, votes are tallied automatically in rounds. The candidate receiving the fewest votes in each round is defeated. A defeated candidate's votes go to the voter's next highest-ranked candidate. The process continues until one candidate has a majority of votes. The measure applies to the nomination and election of President, United States Senator, Representative in Congress, Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer and Attorney General, and election of the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries. The measure requires the Secretary of State to establish a program to educate voters about how ranked choice voting elections will be conducted. Authorizes local governments to adopt ranked choice voting for elections for local offices. Local governments that adopted ranked choice voting before 2025 may continue to use current method or modify it. The measure applies to elections beginning in 2028.

Estimate of Financial Impact

This measure establishes ranked choice voting for federal, state, and some local elected offices. The Secretary of State must create rules for carrying out ranked choice voting and educate voters about ranked choice voting. The Secretary of State and County Clerks must present two reports to interim legislative committees by September 15, 2026. If the measure is passed by Oregon voters, ranked choice voting must be effective by January 1, 2028.

The measure is estimated to cost the state government $0.9 million during the 2023-25 biennium. This cost is to pay for needed staff and consulting services for the Secretary of State to begin carrying out the measure. In the 2025-27 biennium, the cost of the measure is estimated to grow to $5.6 million. This is to continue funding staff and consulting services, as well as outreach and IT needs.

The cost of the measure is less known for local government. County Clerks estimate that the measure will cost $2.3 million initially. This funding will be used to improve technology, train staff, and test the new system. Every statewide election will cost an additional $1.8 million for added printing and logistics. Software and maintenance contract costs will cost an additional $0.4 million per year.

Committee Members:
Secretary of State LaVonne Griffin-Valade
State Treasurer Tobias Read
Berri Leslie, Director, Dept. of Administrative Services
Betsy Imholt, Director, Dept. of Revenue
Ernest Stephens, Local Government Representative

(The estimate of financial impact was provided by the above committee pursuant to ORS 250.127.)

Text of Measure

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Sections 2 to 5 of this 2023 Act are added to and made a part of ORS chapter 254.

SECTION 2. (1) Ranked choice voting as conducted in the manner set forth in section 4 of this 2023 Act shall be used to determine the nomination by a major political party for the following offices:

(a) President of the United States.

(b) United States Senator and Representative in Congress.

(c) Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer and Attorney General.

(2) Ranked choice voting as conducted in the manner set forth in section 4 of this 2023 Act shall be used at the general election to determine election to the following offices:

(a) President and Vice President of the United States.

(b) United States Senator and Representative in Congress.

(c) Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer and Attorney General.

(3) Ranked choice voting as conducted in the manner set forth in section 4 of this 2023 Act shall be used at the primary election to determine election to the office of Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries.

SECTION 3. (1) Unless otherwise prohibited by home rule charter:

(a) A city may use ranked choice voting to determine election to city office.

(b) A county may use ranked choice voting to determine election to county office.

(c) A metropolitan service district organized under ORS chapter 268 may use ranked choice voting to determine election to office of a metropolitan service district.

(d) A school district as defined in ORS 330.005 may use ranked choice voting to determine election to office of the school district.

(e) Any local government or local service district, as both are defined in ORS 174.116, may use ranked choice voting to determine election to office of the local government or local service district.

(2) Unless otherwise prohibited by home rule charter:

(a) For any partisan city office, a city may use ranked choice voting to determine the nomination for that office.

(b) For any partisan county office, a county may use ranked choice voting to determine the nomination for that office.

(c) For any partisan office that is part of a metropolitan service district organized under ORS chapter 268, the metropolitan service district may use ranked choice voting to determine the nomination for that office.

(d) For any partisan office of a school district as defined in ORS 330.005, the school district may use ranked choice voting to determine the nomination for that office.

(e) For any partisan office of a local government or local service district, as both are defined in ORS 174.116, the local government or local service district may use ranked choice voting to determine the nomination for that local government or local service district office.

(3) This section does not apply to the nomination for or election to any office described in section 2 of this 2023 Act.

(4)(a) This section may not be construed to limit, restrict or preempt the authority of any home rule jurisdiction to provide for ranked choice voting conducted in the manner set forth in section 4 of this 2023 Act to determine nomination for or election to any office in that jurisdiction.

(b) This section may not be construed to limit, restrict or preempt the authority of any home rule jurisdiction that, on or after November 8, 2016, and prior to the effective date of this 2023 Act, adopted ranked choice voting to determine elections to office or offices of that jurisdiction, to use ranked choice voting in any manner adopted, amended or revised by the jurisdiction, including using ranked choice voting as locally adopted, amended or revised for elections to office or offices of that jurisdiction in lieu of the method of ranked choice voting set forth in section 4 of this 2023 Act and any rules adopted by the Secretary of State for the purpose of implementing section 4 of this 2023 Act.

(5) The secretary, in consultation with county clerks and elections officers as defined in ORS 255.005, shall:

(a) Adopt rules to implement this section; and

(b) Provide formal and informal guidance to cities, counties, metropolitan service districts organized under ORS chapter 268, school districts as defined in ORS 330.005 and local governments and local service districts, as both are defined in ORS 174.116, regarding the implementation of this section.

SECTION 4. (1) When a nomination for or an election to an office is determined by ranked choice voting, the winner or winners of the nomination or election shall be determined in the manner set forth in this section.

(2)(a) The ballot shall provide electors with the option of ranking as many choices of qualified candidates and qualified write-in candidates as practicable.

(b) Each ballot that is cast shall count as one vote for the highest-ranked active candidate on that ballot. The tallying of ballots shall proceed in rounds, with each round proceeding sequentially as follows:

(A) If an active candidate has a majority of votes in a round, the candidate with the greatest number of votes is nominated or elected and the tallying of ballots is complete for that office.

(B) If no active candidate has a majority of votes in a round:

(i) The active candidate with the fewest votes is defeated and is no longer an active candidate;

(ii) Votes that had been counted for the defeated candidate are transferred to each ballot's next highest-ranked active candidate; and

(iii) A new round of vote tallying begins with ballots retallied in the manner described in this subparagraph.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section and except as otherwise expressly provided by law, when an election to an office is determined by ranked choice voting, and more than one person is to be elected to a single office, the people elected to the office shall be determined by a proportional methodology adopted by rule by the Secretary of State. Any rules adopted under this subsection shall provide that candidates are elected to office by:

(a) Receiving more votes than a threshold determined by dividing the total votes counted for active candidates in the first round of tabulation by the sum of the number of people to be elected plus one, with all votes that are received by a candidate that are in excess of the minimum number of votes required to be elected to office being transferred to lower-ranked active candidates in the manner set forth in the proportional methodology adopted by the secretary under this subsection; or

(b) If the number of active candidates is less than or equal to the number of seats remaining to be filled, by being one of the active candidates.

(4) This section may not be interpreted to limit, restrict or preempt a major political party from selecting delegates for President of the United States according to party rules that are not inconsistent with ORS chapter 248.

(5)(a) The Secretary of State, in consultation with county clerks and elections officers as defined in ORS 255.005, shall adopt rules necessary for the implementation of this section, including, but not limited to:

(A) Determining the number of qualified candidates and qualified write-in candidates that are practicable to be ranked on the ballot for the purposes of subsection (2)(a) of this section;

(B) The tally processes for ranked choice voting; and

(C) Clearly defining any processes and terms needed for effectively implementing ranked choice voting.

(b) Prior to adopting rules relating to the nomination of candidates for President of the United States, the secretary shall also consult with, and receive input from, the Oregon chairperson from each major political party.

(6) As used in this section:

(a) "Active candidate" means a candidate who has not, for the election at which ballots are being tallied:

(A) Withdrawn;

(B) Been defeated; or

(C) Been nominated or elected.

(b) "Highest-ranked active candidate" means the active candidate assigned to a higher ranking on a ballot than any other active candidate.

(c) "Ranking" means the number available to be assigned by an elector to a candidate to express the elector's choice for that candidate, with the number 1 being the highest ranking, followed by the number 2, then the number 3, with any additional rankings authorized under this section following sequentially.

(d) "Round" means an instance of the sequence of voting tabulation:

(A) In the manner described in subsection (2)(b) of this section for elections in which no more than one person is to be elected to a single office;

(B) Adopted under subsection (3) of this section for elections in which more than one person is to be elected to a single office; or

(C) Established in conformity with subsection (4) of this section for the presidential primary election of a major political party.

SECTION 5. (1) The Secretary of State shall by rule establish a program to educate electors about how ranked choice voting will be conducted in elections held in this state.

(2) The program established under this section shall:

(a) Involve community-based organizations;

(b) Be culturally appropriate; and

(c) Be available to electors in English and in the five most commonly spoken languages in this state, other than English, that have been identified by the secretary under ORS 251.167.

SECTION 6. Section 7 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 249.

SECTION 7. (1) Notwithstanding ORS 249.016 or any other provision of law:

(a) There may not be a nominating election for the office of Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries; and

(b) The office of Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries shall be elected at the primary election by ranked choice voting conducted in the manner set forth in section 4 of this 2023 Act.

(2) Except as otherwise expressly provided by this section or other law, the requirements of ORS 249.016 to 249.205 apply to candidates for the office of Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries.

SECTION 8. ORS 246.200 is amended to read:

246.200. (1)**(a)** Except as otherwise provided by law, the county clerk is the only elections officer who may conduct an election in this state.

(b) For purposes of this section, the conduct of an election includes, but is not limited to, establishing precincts, preparing ballots and sample ballots, and receiving and processing votes.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section:

(a) The county clerk is not the only elections officer who may accept and verify a filing for nomination or filing of a petition, prepare a voters' pamphlet or ballot title, or prepare or publish an election notice; [*and*]

(b) The Secretary of State may receive ballots as provided in ORS 253.585[.]; **and**

(c) The Secretary of State, in a manner determined by the secretary by rule, may tally ballots cast for the nomination for or election to an office that is determined by ranked choice voting as provided in section 4 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 9. ORS 254.065 is amended to read:

254.065. (1)**(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection,** when one person is to be nominated for or elected to an office, the person receiving the highest number of votes shall be nominated or elected. **Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection,** when more than one person is to be nominated for or elected to a single office, the persons receiving the higher number of votes shall be nominated or elected. This subsection does not apply to a candidate for election to an office at a general election if the election for the office must be held at a special election as described in ORS 254.650.

(b)(A) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, when a nomination for or election to an office is determined by ranked choice voting, a determination of which person has received the highest number of votes shall be done:

(i) In the manner set forth in section 4 of this 2023 Act; or

(ii) In the manner adopted, amended or revised by a local jurisdiction in conformity with section 3 (4)(b) of this 2023 Act.

(B) If the National Popular Vote interstate compact set forth in section 1, chapter 356, Oregon Laws 2019, governs the appointment of presidential electors and the election of presidential electors in this state is determined by ranked choice voting:

(i) The determination of which candidates for the position of presidential elector shall be declared elected in this state shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the National Popular Vote interstate compact; and

(ii) The "final determination" of the presidential vote count reported and certified to the member states of the compact and to the federal government shall be the votes received in the final round of statewide tabulation by each slate of candidates for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States that received votes in the final round of statewide tabulation.

(c) When more than one person is to be nominated for or elected to a single office by ranked choice voting, a determination of which persons have received the highest number of votes shall be done in the manner established under section 4 (3) of this 2023 Act.

(2) No measure shall be adopted unless it receives an affirmative majority of the total votes cast on the measure. If two or more conflicting laws, or amendments to the Constitution or charter, are approved at the same election, the law, or amendment, receiving the greatest number of affirmative votes shall be paramount regarding each conflict, even though the law, or amendment, may not have received the greatest majority of affirmative votes.

SECTION 10. ORS 254.145 is amended to read:

254.145. (1)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, the names of candidates for nomination for or election to each office shall be arranged on the ballot in the

order determined under ORS 254.155.

(b) The names of candidates for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States shall be arranged in groups.

(2) Except as provided in ORS 254.125 and 254.135 and this section, no information about the candidate, including any title or designation, other than the candidate's name, may appear on the ballot.

(3) Spaces shall be provided for any offices appearing on the ballot in which the elector may write the name of any person not printed on the ballot. If a voting machine is used, spaces shall be provided on the ballot, or on separate material delivered to the elector with the ballot, in which the elector may write or enter the names of persons for any offices appearing on the ballot.

(4) On the left margin of the ballot, the name of each group or candidate may be numbered. The blank spaces may not be numbered. A particular number may not be used to designate more than one candidate at any election.

(5) The names of all candidates for the same office shall be listed in the same column on the ballot. If more than one column is needed to list names of all candidates for that office, the names may be arranged in one or more columns in block form. The block shall be set apart by rulings under the title of the office. If a blank space follows the list of candidates, the space shall be in the same column as the names of candidates for that office. If blocks of columns are used, blank spaces shall be included within the ruled block.

(6) The ballot shall be clearly marked to indicate when names of candidates for the office are continued on the following page.

(7) When a measure is submitted to the people, the number, ballot title and financial estimates under ORS 250.125 of each measure shall be printed after the list of candidates. A measure referred by the Legislative Assembly shall be designated "Referred to the People by the Legislative Assembly." A state measure referred by petition shall be designated "Referendum Order by Petition of the People." A state measure proposed by initiative petition shall be designated "Proposed by Initiative Petition."

(8) The ballot shall be printed to give the elector a clear opportunity to designate the elector's choice **or choices** for candidates and approval or rejection of measures submitted.

(9) When an elector is allowed to make only one choice or answer and if a voting machine is not used, the elector shall indicate a preference by making a cross or check mark inside a voting square corresponding to the candidate or answer for which the elector wishes to vote. A voting square may be printed on the blank, write-in vote spaces. However, the elector is not required to place a mark in the voting square corresponding to a name written in a blank space. Words shall be printed on the ballot to aid the elector, such as "Vote for one," "Vote for three," and regarding measures, "Yes" and "No."

(10) When a nomination for or an election to an office is determined by ranked choice voting as provided in section 4 of this 2023 Act, the ballot shall provide the elector with the ability to rank, by choice, write-in candidates and candidates appearing on the ballot for the office. The Secretary of State by rule shall establish a statement to be printed on the ballot describing how to mark choices in an election determined by ranked choice voting consistent with section 4 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 11. ORS 254.485 is amended to read:

254.485. (1) Ballots may be tallied by a vote tally system, [*or*] by a counting board **or in the manner determined by the Secretary of State under ORS 246.200.** A counting board may tally ballots at the precinct or in the office of the county clerk. [*In any event,*] **Except as otherwise determined by the secretary under ORS 246.200,** the ballots shall be tallied and returned by precinct.

(2) If a vote tally system is used, the county clerk shall repeat the public certification test described under ORS 254.235 (1). The test shall be conducted immediately prior to scanning any ballots. The test may be observed by persons described in ORS 254.235 (2). The county clerk shall certify the results of the test.

(3) If a counting board has been appointed, the tally of ballots may begin on the date of the election.

(4)(a) If ballots are tallied by a counting board, after the tally has begun it shall continue until completed. Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, a counting board shall tally without adjournment and in the presence of the clerks and persons authorized to attend.

(b) A counting board may be relieved by another board if the tally is not completed after 12 hours.

(5) A counting board shall audibly announce the tally as it proceeds. The board shall use only pen and ink to tally.

(6) For ballots cast using a voting machine, the county clerk shall:

(a) Enter the ballots cast using the machine into the vote tally system; and

(b) In the event of a recount, provide the paper record copy recorded by the machine to the counting board.

(7) A person other than the **Secretary of State,** county clerk, a member of a counting board or any other elections official designated by the **secretary or** county clerk may not tally ballots under this chapter.

(8) The Secretary of State shall by rule establish a procedure for announcing the status of the tally of the ballots received after the date of the election. Rules adopted under this subsection must:

(a) Consider the number of ballots being released in relation to the size of the district;

(b) Prioritize voter anonymity; and

(c) After prioritizing voter anonymity under paragraph (b) of this subsection, prioritize the importance of timely reporting election results.

SECTION 12. ORS 244.050, as amended by section 1, chapter 66, Oregon Laws 2022, is amended to read:

244.050. (1) On or before April 15 of each year the following persons shall file with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission a verified statement of economic interest as required under this chapter:

(a) The Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries, district attorneys and members of the Legislative Assembly.

(b) Any judicial officer, including justices of the peace and municipal judges, except any pro tem judicial officer who does not otherwise serve as a judicial officer.

(c) Any candidate for a public office designated in paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection.

(d) The Deputy Attorney General.

(e) The Deputy Secretary of State.

(f) The Legislative Administrator, the Legislative Counsel, the Legislative Fiscal Officer, the Legislative Policy and Research Director, the Secretary of the Senate, the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Legislative Equity Officer.

(g) The president and vice presidents, or their administrative equivalents, in each public university listed in ORS 352.002.

(h) The following state officers:

(A) Adjutant General.

(B) Director of Agriculture.

(C) Manager of State Accident Insurance Fund Corporation.

(D) Water Resources Director.

(E) Director of the Department of Environmental Quality.

(F) Director of the Oregon Department of Administrative Services.

(G) State Fish and Wildlife Director.

(H) State Forester.

(I) State Geologist.

(J) Director of Human Services.

(K) Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services.

(L) Director of the Department of State Lands.

(M) State Librarian.

(N) Administrator of the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission.

(O) Superintendent of State Police.

(P) Director of the Public Employees Retirement System.

(Q) Director of Department of Revenue.

(R) Director of Transportation.

(S) Public Utility Commissioner.

(T) Director of Veterans' Affairs.

(U) Executive director of Oregon Government Ethics Commission.

(V) Director of the State Department of Energy.

(W) Director and each assistant director of the Oregon State Lottery.

(X) Director of the Department of Corrections.

(Y) Director of the Oregon Department of Aviation.

(Z) Executive director of the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.

(AA) Director of the Oregon Business Development Department.

(BB) Director of the Oregon Department of Emergency Management.

(CC) Director of the Employment Department.

(DD) State Fire Marshal.

(EE) Chief of staff for the Governor.

(FF) Director of the Housing and Community Services Department.

(GG) State Court Administrator.

(HH) Director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development.

(II) Board chairperson of the Land Use Board of Appeals.

(JJ) State Marine Director.

(KK) Executive director of the Oregon Racing Commission.

(LL) State Parks and Recreation Director.

(MM) Public defense services executive director.

(NN) Chairperson of the Public Employees' Benefit Board.

(OO) Director of the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training.

(PP) Executive director of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

(QQ) Executive director of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board.

(RR) Director of the Oregon Youth Authority.

(SS) Director of the Oregon Health Authority.

(TT) Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction.

(i) The First Partner, the legal counsel, the deputy legal counsel and all policy advisors within the Governor's office.

(j) Every elected city or county official.

(k) Every member of a city or county planning, zoning or development commission.

(L) The chief executive officer of a city or county who performs the duties of manager or principal administrator of the city or county.

(m) Members of local government boundary commissions formed under ORS 199.410 to 199.519.

(n) Every member of a governing body of a metropolitan service district and the auditor and executive officer thereof.

(o) Each member of the board of directors of the State Accident Insurance Fund Corporation.

(p) The chief administrative officer and the financial officer of each common and union high school district, education service district and community college district.

(q) Every member of the following state boards, commissions and councils:

(A) Governing board of the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

(B) Oregon Business Development Commission.

(C) State Board of Education.

(D) Environmental Quality Commission.

(E) Fish and Wildlife Commission of the State of Oregon.

(F) State Board of Forestry.

(G) Oregon Government Ethics Commission.

(H) Oregon Health Policy Board.

(I) Oregon Investment Council.

(J) Land Conservation and Development Commission.

(K) Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission.

(L) Oregon Short Term Fund Board.

(M) State Marine Board.

(N) Mass transit district boards.

(O) Energy Facility Siting Council.

(P) Board of Commissioners of the Port of Portland.

(Q) Employment Relations Board.

(R) Public Employees Retirement Board.

(S) Oregon Racing Commission.

(T) Oregon Transportation Commission.

(U) Water Resources Commission.

(V) Workers' Compensation Board.

(W) Oregon Facilities Authority.

(X) Oregon State Lottery Commission.

(Y) Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council.

(Z) Columbia River Gorge Commission.

(AA) Oregon Health and Science University Board of Directors.

(BB) Capitol Planning Commission.

(CC) Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

(DD) Oregon Growth Board.

(EE) Early Learning Council.

(FF) The Oversight and Accountability Council.

(r) The following officers of the State Treasurer:

(A) Deputy State Treasurer.

(B) Chief of staff for the office of the State Treasurer.

(C) Director of the Investment Division.

(s) Every member of the board of commissioners of a port governed by ORS 777.005 to 777.725 or 777.915 to 777.953.

(t) Every member of the board of directors of an authority created under ORS 441.525 to 441.595.

(u) Every member of a governing board of a public university listed in ORS 352.002.

(v) Every member of the district school board of a common school district or union high school district.

(w) Every member of the board of directors of an authority created under ORS 465.600 to 465.621.

(2) By April 15 next after the date an appointment takes effect, every appointed public official on a board or commission listed in subsection (1) of this section shall file with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission a statement of economic interest as required under ORS 244.060, 244.070 and 244.090.

(3) By April 15 next after the filing deadline for the primary election, each candidate described in subsection (1) of this section **who will appear on a primary election ballot** shall file with the commission a statement of economic interest as required under ORS 244.060, 244.070 and 244.090.

(4) Not later than the 40th day before the date of the statewide general election, each candidate described in subsection (1) of this section who will appear on the statewide general election ballot and who was not required to file a statement of economic interest under subsections (1) to (3) of this section shall file with the commission a statement of economic interest as required under ORS 244.060, 244.070 and 244.090.

(5) Subsections (1) to (3) of this section apply only to persons who are incumbent, elected or appointed public officials as of April 15 and to persons who are candidates on April 15.

(6) If a statement required to be filed under this section has not been received by the commission within five days after the date the statement is due, the commission shall notify the public official or candidate and give the public official or candidate not less than 15 days to comply with the requirements of this section. If the public official or candidate fails to comply by the date set by the commission, the commission may impose a civil penalty as provided in ORS 244.350.

SECTION 13. ORS 249.088 is amended to read:

249.088. (1) Except as provided in ORS 249.091, at the nominating election held on the date of the primary election:

(a) Unless a candidate for nonpartisan office receives a majority of the votes cast for the office, the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes are nominated.

(b) If a candidate for nonpartisan office receives a majority of votes cast for the office, that candidate is elected.

(2) The application of this section is subject to the provisions of a home rule charter.

(3) This section does not apply to any election to nonpartisan office for which ranked choice voting as conducted in the manner set forth in section 4 of this 2023 Act is used to determine election to the office.

SECTION 14. ORS 249.091 is amended to read:

249.091. (1) If a nominating petition or declaration of candidacy is filed by no more than two candidates for the office of sheriff, county treasurer or county clerk or by no more than two candidates to fill a vacancy in a nonpartisan office:

(a) The candidate or candidates are nominated; and

(b) The name or names of the candidate or candidates may not be printed on the ballot at the nominating election.

(2) If a nominating petition or declaration of candidacy is filed by more than two candidates for the office of sheriff, county treasurer or county clerk or by more than two candidates to fill a vacancy in a nonpartisan office:

(a) Unless a candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for the office, the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes are nominated.

(b) If a candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for the office, that candidate alone is nominated.

(3) The application of this section is subject to the provisions of a home rule charter.

(4) This section does not apply to any election for the office of sheriff, county treasurer or county clerk, or to fill a vacancy in nonpartisan office, for which ranked choice voting as conducted in the manner set forth in section 4 of this 2023 Act is used to determine election to the office.

SECTION 15. ORS 258.280 is amended to read:

258.280. (1)**(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection,** the Secretary of State shall order a full recount of the votes cast for nomination or election to a public office for which the Secretary of State is the filing officer, and the county clerk who conducted the election shall order a full recount of the votes cast for nomination or election to any other public office if the canvass of votes of the election reveals that:

[(*a*)] **(A)** Two or more candidates for that nomination or office have an equal and the highest number of votes; or

[(*b*)] **(B)** The difference in the number of votes cast for a candidate apparently nominated or elected to the office and the votes cast for the closest apparently defeated opponent is not more than one-fifth of one percent of the total votes for both candidates.

(b) The Secretary of State by rule shall establish when a full recount of the votes cast for nomination or election to a public office is required for an election in which ranked choice voting is conducted in the manner set forth in section 4 of this 2023 Act and the secretary is the filing officer. Any rules adopted under this paragraph shall, to the extent practicable, comply with the requirements set forth in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(2)(a) Unless otherwise provided by a home rule charter, at an election described in ORS 249.088, the Secretary of State shall order a full recount of the votes cast for nomination or election to a nonpartisan office for which the Secretary of State is the filing officer, and the county clerk who conducted the election shall order a full recount of the votes cast for nomination or election to any other nonpartisan office, if the canvass of votes of the election reveals that the number of votes cast for a candidate differs from a majority of votes cast for the office by not more than one-fifth of one percent of the total votes cast for the office.

(b) This subsection does not apply to the office of sheriff, the office of county clerk, the office of county treasurer or a candidate to fill a vacancy, as described in ORS 249.091.

(3) The cost of a full recount conducted under this section shall be paid by the county for a county office, by the city for a city office, by the special district for a special district office or by the state for any other office.

SECTION 16. (1) The Secretary of State, in consultation with the county clerks, shall analyze the election laws of this state to determine whether existing laws are inconsistent with the effective and efficient implementation of ranked choice

voting elections.

(2) The Secretary of State and county clerks shall jointly submit two reports in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to elections:

(a) Setting forth the results of the analysis conducted under subsection (1) of this section; and

b) Detailing, to the degree practicable, each expenditure, and the associated cost of each expenditure, that the secretary and county clerks have determined is necessary to make in order to successfully implement this 2023 Act by the operative date specified in section 18 of this 2023 Act, including but not limited to expenditures related to:

(A) Staff training;

(B) Purchasing or updating new equipment;

(C) Voter education;

(D) Purchasing or updating new software; and

(E) Hiring additional staff.

(3) The Secretary of State and the county clerks shall submit:

(a) The first report required under subsection (2) of this section no later than March 15, 2025.

(b) The final report required under subsection (2) of this section no later than September 15, 2026.

SECTION 17. Section 16 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.

SECTION 18. (1) Sections 2 to 5 and 7 of this 2023 Act and the amendments to ORS 244.050, 246.200, 249.088, 249.091, 254.065, 254.145, 254.485 and 258.280 by sections 8 to 15 of this 2023 Act become operative on January 1, 2028.

(2) The Secretary of State and county clerks may take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary to enable the secretary and county clerks to exercise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all the duties, functions and powers conferred on the secretary and county clerks by sections 2 to 5 and 7 of this 2023 Act and the amendments to ORS 244.050, 246.200, 249.088, 249.091, 254.065, 254.145, 254.485 and 258.280 by sections 8 to 15 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 19. Sections 2 to 5 and 7 of this 2023 Act and the amendments to ORS 244.050, 246.200, 249.088, 249.091, 254.065, 254.145, 254.485 and 258.280 by sections 8 to 15 of this 2023 Act apply to elections and nominations occurring on or after January 1, 2028.

SECTION 20. This 2023 Act shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout this state.

Note: **Boldfaced** type indicates new language; [*brackets and italic*] type indicates deletions or comments.

Explanatory Statement

Ballot Measure 117 changes Oregon law to give voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference using "ranked choice voting" for specified federal and statewide offices. Under current law, voters select only one candidate for most offices, and the candidate with the most votes wins, even if the candidate does not receive a majority of all the votes cast. With ranked choice voting, voters may rank candidates for office in order of preference. Voters may choose to rank multiple candidates or only one candidate for each office, as well as write-in candidate(s). Votes are counted in rounds. In the first round, if a candidate receives a majority of highest-ranked votes, the candidate wins. If no candidate receives a majority of highest-ranked votes in the first round, votes are automatically counted in additional rounds. The candidate receiving the fewest votes in each round is defeated and the defeated candidate's votes are assigned to the voter's next highest-ranked candidate. This process continues until a candidate receives a majority of votes.

Ballot Measure 117 requires the Secretary of State to establish a program to educate voters about how ranked choice voting elections will be conducted. The program must be made available in English and the other five most commonly spoken languages in this state.

Ballot Measure 117 applies to the nomination by major political parties for candidates for President, United States Senator, Representative in Congress, Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer and Attorney General. The measure applies to the election of President and Vice-President, United States Senator, Representative in Congress, Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General and the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries. The measure eliminates the primary for the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries.

Ballot Measure 117 allows local governments to adopt ranked choice voting for elections for local offices and for primaries for partisan local offices. The measure requires the Secretary of State, in consultation with county clerks and elections officers, to enact rules and provide general guidance to local governments regarding the implementation of ranked choice voting. The measure allows home rule jurisdictions that already adopted ranked choice voting prior to 2025 to continue to use their current method, or to revise it.

Ballot Measure 117 requires the Secretary of State and county clerks to analyze state election laws to determine whether those laws are inconsistent with implementing ranked choice voting, and to provide publicly available reports discussing that analysis and the anticipated expenditures necessary to implement the measure.

Ballot Measure 117 applies to nominations and elections on or after January 1, 2028.

Committee Members:	**Appointed by:**
Senator Tim Knopp*	President of the Senate
Senator Kate Lieber	President of the Senate
Senator James Manning Jr.	President of the Senate
Representative Ben Bowman	Speaker of the House
Representative Paul Holvey	Speaker of the House
Representative Kim Wallan*	Speaker of the House

*Member dissents (does not concur with explanatory statement)

(The above committee was appointed to provide an impartial explanation of the ballot measure pursuant to Chapter 366, Oregon Laws (2023).)

Legislative Argument in Support

Let's face it: Voters are frustrated with politics and often face limited options on their ballots. Measure 117 gives voters the option to rank their favorite candidates for federal and statewide offices in order of preference, using ranked choice voting. The measure does not mandate that local governments switch to ranked choice voting as they can already adopt it on their own. Measure 117 only applies to certain federal and statewide offices.

With over 50 places and 13 million voters using ranked choice voting across the United States – including Oregon's own Benton County – Measure 117 is a proven method to give voters more voice and choice in their elections.

Measure 117:

- Gives voters the option to vote how they want – by ranking multiple candidates or just one.
- Lets voters rank their favorite candidate first, without fear of wasting their vote.
- Ensures candidates receive support from a majority of Oregonians who cast a ballot to win, so our leaders better reflect their voters.

Measure 117 was referred to the ballot with support from a broad coalition of community organizations, labor unions, civic organizations, and many others. Dozens of democracy experts, election officials, and political scientists from Oregon and around the country contributed expertise to the development of this referral. As a result, Measure 117 includes a long lead time before it goes into effect in 2028 and provides resources for robust voter education to help ensure successful use by all Oregon voters.

Measure 117 is Oregon's next step toward giving voters a greater ability to make their voices heard – and more reason to participate in our elections. Now, we are asking you to join us in giving voters more say in who is elected to our statewide and federal offices.

We urge a yes vote on Measure 117.

Legislative Argument Vote Report:

Senator Taylor – Aye

Representative Bowman – Aye

Representative Wallan – Nay

Committee Members:	**Appointed by:**
Senator Kathleen Taylor	President of the Senate
Representative Ben Bowman	Speaker of the House
Representative Kim Wallan	Speaker of the House

(This Joint Legislative Committee was appointed to provide the legislative argument in support of the ballot measure pursuant to ORS 251.245.)

Argument in Favor

******* VETERANS *******

*** Supporting Measure 117 ***

As veterans, we deeply understand how vital voting is – we have dedicated our lives to fulfilling the promise of our liberty and our democracy.

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Veterans for All Voters works with veterans across the country and in Oregon that have very politically diverse backgrounds. **Our mission is to build and mobilize a community of military veterans to advocate for election innovations that unlock competition, make our politics less polarizing, and our government more effective**.

62% of Oregon veterans identify as "independent" or "unaffiliated" voters, and many of them feel that they don't have a genuine voice in our elections. We see these failures of our current system as issues directly linked to the problems with how we do elections.

-

Measure 117 will create a pathway for better candidates to have a real chance of getting elected– including representing the voters who don't always fully agree with the two major parties.

Measure 117 helps fix this by enabling us to vote for candidates that closely reflect our values, rather than the lesser of two evils. **It gives us the ability to elect candidates who we actually WANT in office, and a greater ability to hold them accountable.**

That means candidates will have to appeal to a broader range of Oregonians in order to win, and not just a fraction of voters like they do now.

-

Measure 117 gives us the opportunity to take power back for Oregonians and elect leaders who truly have our communities' best interests at heart.

Veterans are at the forefront of safeguarding our democracy, and we believe Measure 117 is the right next step for Oregon.

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(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Yes on 117, on behalf of veterans supporting 117.)

Argument in Favor

Young People Want to Participate Without Wasting Our Vote

We often hear, "young people are not motivated to participate in our elections," but the truth is we are disillusioned with our options, forced to choose between candidates who are the lesser of two evils. We feel that our votes make little difference in creating the world we want to see.

We often feel pressured to use our votes against a candidate – rather than voting for the person who truly holds our values at the forefront.

When constantly faced with needing to choose between the "lesser of two evils" or throwing our votes away, we hear from young voters all the time who are choosing not to vote because voting feels like a lose-lose situation. However, this is not unique to how young people feel about voting – it's how voters of all ages and backgrounds are feeling these days.

Measure 117 gives voters the ability to vote for who we want, how we want.

By allowing voters to rank candidates, we can be sure our votes will count - even if our first choices don't win. This allows us to vote for who we want and we'll see new candidates that we like run for office.

Ranked choice voting is already used by over 13 million voters in dozens of places in the US (including some cities and counties in Oregon) and those people overwhelmingly prefer using it to the way we vote now.

Democracy only works when it's built for everyone. That can only happen when we have the power to elect leaders who understand the issues affecting our communities.

By voting ***YES* on Measure 117**, we can move closer to a world that truly represents and supports our hopes, aspirations, and vision for this place we call home.

Sincerely,

Oregon's Youth Focused Organizations:

Next Up Action Fund

Sunrise Movement PDX

350 PDX

(This information furnished by Isabela m Villarreal, Next Up Action Fund.)

Argument in Favor

Oregon's Civic Leaders Say YES on Measure 117

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A message from:

- League of Women Voters of Oregon
- Veterans for All Voters
- Common Cause Oregon
- City Club of Portland
- Oregon Center for Voting and Elections

"Our electoral system is failing us. Each election cycle, voters are inundated with negative campaign ads from politicians who focus on attacking each other rather than on the big issues. Special interest groups divert attention away from the problems that everyday people are facing. We are all exhausted by our limited choices.

***Measure 117 is the change we need.** With ranked choice voting, voters will have the liberty of ranking their top candidates in their preferred order. (We also have the liberty to rank just one candidate, as we do now, if only one candidate appeals to us.) This means we're putting the power back in the hands of voters – where it belongs. Instead of feeling like we need to vote for the candidate who has the most money or the best chance of winning, we can use our vote to support the candidates we actually connect with.*

With ranked choice voting, candidates will need to secure broad support to win an election, not just a narrow base. That's because under Measure 117, no candidate can win without at least 50% support, unlike our current system. It also reduces the power of special interests; candidates can no longer get by with just having the most powerful backers to win—they will need to appeal directly to the majority of voters.

Research shows voters who have used ranked choice voting are more satisfied with the outcomes, because they have more say in who is elected. On average, three out of four voters prefer it to the current system.

This is why civic institutions across Oregon say YES on Measure 117 – to create an electoral system that effectively elects leaders who will do what is best for all Oregonians."

~

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Co-Founder of the nonpartisan Oregon Center for Voting and Elections.)

Argument in Favor

TRUSTED SOURCES SUPPORT RANKED CHOICE VOTING

Hundreds of political science experts, trusted journalists, and nonpartisan organizations in Oregon and across the country support ranked choice voting. Here's what some of them are saying:

Vote for who you want, how you want

"Future elections will undoubtedly produce many more spoiled outcomes under the current voting method.... With ranked choice voting, voters face no strategic penalty for choosing their top candidate." *–Shannon Grimes, Researcher with the Sightline Institute's Democracy Program (6/6/24)*

Voter satisfaction

"Nearly everywhere it's in use, voters and candidates say they're happier with it." *– New York Times, Editorial Board (6/9/18)*

Less polarization

"Moreover [journalists from Alaska, Maine and San Francisco] said, voters get used to [ranked choice voting]... voters feel less disenfranchised. That's because in traditional voting, my candidate either wins or loses, period. With this method, someone in my, say, top 3 might get the win." *–Dana Haynes, Editor in Chief at the Portland Tribune (8/8/24)*

Better representation

"...ranked-choice voting encourages more candidates to run, especially women and people of color, and that it discourages negative campaigning, since candidates are no longer competing for a person's only vote." *–Emma G. Fitzsimmons, City Hall Bureau Chief at The New York Times (6/16/23)*

Majority support

"Ranked-choice balloting would ensure the winner has broad support." *– Washington Post, Editorial Board (5/26/23)*

Our next step toward better democracy

"The one thing I would do to fix American democracy is to have as many states as possible move to ranked-choice voting."

–Francis Fukuyama, a senior fellow at Stanford University and Mosbacher director of its Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law (Politico Magazine, 2019)

For more information on who supports Measure 117 in Oregon, visit www.yeson117.com/endorsers/

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Oregon Ranked Choice Voting Advocates.)

Argument in Favor

Yes on Measure 117

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In 2022, the City of Corvallis became the first city in Oregon to adopt ranked choice voting to elect our mayor and city councilors.

Ranked choice voting already runs smoothly right here in Oregon!

Since Benton County voters approved it in 2016, ranked choice voting has been used in the 2020 Benton County Commissioner elections and the 2022 Corvallis city elections. In Corvallis, ranked choice voting has allowed voters to choose their preferred candidate, without worry of wasting their vote or worry that they will hurt the chances of their other favorites. With Measure 117, voters can rank their favorite candidate as their first choice and have backup choices. If a voter's first choice doesn't have enough votes to win, their ballot will automatically count for the candidate they ranked as a second choice.

Measure 117 would establish ranked choice voting for Oregon's federal and statewide elections - and would help standardize how it is used for local governments that adopt it in the future.

Ranked choice voting is simple, secure, and effective!

In the 2022 mayoral election in Corvallis, 95% of voters decided to rank a second candidate. Oregon voters understand how to use it and like the ability of ranking more than one candidate, because it gives them more voice.

Under Oregon's current method of voting, a candidate can win office with less than a majority of the votes. We believe that someone looking to represent us should have the support of a majority of voters to hold any office of trust within their community. This means that those who wish to govern must be approved by more than just their base; they must receive a mandate from their community.

Visit Benton County's Website bentonbetterballot.com to practice using a ranked choice ballot.

Charles Maughan, *Corvallis Mayor*

and

Gabe Shepherd, *Corvallis City Councilor*

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni.)

Argument in Favor

TIRED OF CHOOSING BETWEEN THE LESSER OF TWO EVILS?

Here's how voting YES on Measure 117 will help give you better choices!

Ever have this happen to you when you are filling out your ballot? There's a candidate you like, but they are a long shot to win. So, you're left with a choice:

Vote for that candidate you like best, who you know will almost certainly lose, and feel like you're throwing your vote away.

OR

Vote for the "least bad" option, who you think has a real chance to win, and feel like you're voting against your values.

Choosing between the lesser of two evils isn't really a choice. But our political system makes it hard for your voice to be truly heard.

It doesn't have to be this way.

Measure 117 helps solve this problem by giving you the ability to vote for who you really want, without feeling that your vote is wasted. Here's how:

- Measure 117 would allow us to rank candidates in order of preference: 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice, and so on.
- This means you can rank your favorite candidate first, while also having the option to rank BACK-UP CHOICES.
- With back-up choices, your voice still has a chance to be heard, even if your top pick doesn't win.
- **Only like one candidate? No problem. Measure 117 gives you the option to vote for just one candidate, just like we do now.**

People in more than 50 places across the nation vote this way, and they like having more choice and more voice in who represents their community. That's why dozens of non-partisan good government groups have endorsed Measure 117.

See the full list of supporters at yeson117.com/endorsers

Yes on 117!

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Yes On 117: More Voice, Better Choices.)

Argument in Favor

We May Not Agree on Other Issues, But We Agree on Measure 117

08/25/2024

Dear Fellow Oregonians,

It is refreshing to find ourselves on common ground as we write this letter, especially given our political differences.

After all, one of us is a **lifelong Republican,** and one of us a **progressive Democrat**. We don't listen to the same news sources, and we're not voting for the same candidates this year. **But we both love Oregon** and want a **better future for our families and for our communities.**

That's why we agree: *Measure 117 may be the one thing we vote the same way on this year.*

Here's why:

117 Puts People Over Politics

Media outlets on both sides seem to forget this, but our democracy is supposed to be about what's best for Oregonians. Measure 117 gives us all more of a voice in our elections and forces politicians to work for everyone – not just a handful.

Vote For Who You Want To

With ranked choice voting, we're no longer forced to choose between the lesser of two evils. We can vote for a long-shot candidate – but be sure our voices are still heard when it comes to who wins. *Ever been told not to vote for someone who shared your values because you would be "wasting your vote?"* Those days could be over if we pass Measure 117.

Vote the Way You Want To

With ranked choice voting, we have the option to rank multiple candidates - or vote for just one, like we do now. Measure 117 means you don't have to compromise when choosing who to vote for and helps elect the person who voters actually like best. That's a good thing no matter what your politics are.

Regardless of where you fall on the political spectrum, we hope you vote YES on 117.

Sincerely,

Helena G., registered Democrat, Multnomah County

&

Amy B., registered Republican, Jackson County

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, on behalf of Amy & Helena.)

Argument in Favor

Oregon Labor Unions & Workers Agree:
VOTE YES ON MEASURE 117

We represent over a hundred thousand hardworking Oregonians across the state who grow our food, repair our roads, teach our kids, care for aging family members, and much, much more.

From wildfire funding, to healthcare, to school budgets and veterans services, our elected officials make decisions and support legislation that impact every single Oregonian - especially working people.

Elected officials should represent the people. But too many voters feel left out and feel that their voice isn't being heard. **We believe our elections should represent what voters actually want. That's why we encourage Oregonians to support Measure 117.**

Here are some of the ways Measure 117 shifts power back to regular people:

Back-up choices.

Measure 117 allows you to rank the candidate you like best first. But it also lets you rank other candidates you like second, third, fourth, and so on. That means that unlike now,

if your favorite candidate doesn't win, your back-up choices still count.

Better representation.

Measure 117 will encourage new candidates, especially those from different backgrounds, to run for office. In the places using ranked choice voting, more working people, women, people of color, first-time candidates, and young people run for office - and win.

Majority wins.

Currently in Oregon, if three or more candidates are running for the same elected office, the "winner" can get elected even if they receive less than 50% of the vote. That's NOT a majority. Measure 117 will fix that by requiring that a winning candidate receive support from a majority of Oregon voters. That way, the person who wins is the candidate that the most Oregonians agree on.

Oregon AFSCME
SEIU Oregon (Locals 49 and 503)
PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker Union
Oregon Education Association (OEA)
American Federation of Teachers - Oregon (AFT - OR)
United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555 (UFCW Local 555)

(This information furnished by Lamar Wise, Oregon AFSCME.)

Argument in Favor

MEASURE 117 EMPOWERS VOTERS OF COLOR

Currently, voters feel that they have to vote for the candidate with the best chance of winning, rather than the candidate that shares their values. Voters worry about throwing their vote away if they vote for their true favorite since they only get one option.

STRONGER VOICE

Measure 117 would change that by giving voters the option to rank the candidates in their preferred order. If your first choice doesn't win, your vote counts for your next choice. This way you can vote without fear that your voice won't count.

BETTER REPRESENTATION

Measure 117 will require that the winning candidate earn a majority of the vote to win, unlike the current system, which will ensure candidates have a better understanding of the issues our communities are facing. More than 50 places use ranked choice voting in the country, and have seen more candidates of color run for office and win.

LA MEDIDA 17 EMPODERA A LOS VOTANTES DE COLOR

Actualmente, los votantes sienten que tienen que votar por el candidato que tiene la mayor posibilidad de ganar, en lugar del candidato que comparte sus valores. A los votantes les preocupa desperdiciar su voto si votan por su verdadero favorito, ya que sólo tienen una opción.

VOZ MÁS FUERTE

La Medida 117 cambiaría eso a darles a los votantes la opción de clasificar los candidatos en sus boletas en su orden preferido. Si tu primera opción no gana, tu voto cuenta para tu próxima opción. De esta forma, podrás votar sin miedo a que tu voz no cuente.

MEJOR REPRESENTACIÓN

La Medida 117 requerirá que el candidato ganador obtenga una mayoría del voto para ganar, a diferencia del sistema actual, que garantizará que los candidatos comprendan mejor los problemas que enfrentan nuestras comunidades. Más de 50 lugares utilizan la votación por orden de preferencia en el país, y han visto más candidatos de color postularse para cargos y ganar.

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Oregonians for Ranked Choice Voting.)

Argument in Favor

As Oregonians, **we want the power to elect leaders who represent us and our values**. But, right now, politicians often get elected even if a majority of voters wanted someone else.

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That's not how democracy should work.

~

Measure 117 fixes that by helping guarantee our leaders are supported by a majority of Oregonians.

~

With ranked choice voting, **we can vote for our favorite candidate** and choose any backup candidates we like – without worrying about wasting our vote.

~

And, we know that the candidate who wins will have broad support from our community – not just a narrow base.

~

That's because **Measure 117** gives us more power **to vote how we want**, not against someone else.

~

Over 117 trusted organizations say **YES on Measure 117**, including:

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The League of Women Voters of Oregon
American Civil Liberties Union, Oregon
Oregon Education Association (OEA)
PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker Union
Coalition of Communities of Color
Women's Foundation of Oregon
The Ebony Collective Coalition
Oregon Health Equity Alliance
Tribal Democracy Project
Common Cause Oregon
Veterans for All Voters
Basic Rights Oregon
Sierra Club Oregon
All Oregon Votes
The Street Trust
The American Federation of Teachers - Oregon
Oregon Center for Voting and Elections
SEIU Oregon (Locals 49 and 503)
Next Up Action Fund
Oregon AFSCME
Oregon Wild
Verde

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A simple, proven upgrade for voters.

yeson117.com

VISIT US TO FIND OUT WHO IS SUPPORTING IN YOUR AREA

~

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Yes on 117.)

Argument in Favor

Why Benton County Voters Like Using Ranked Choice Voting (in their own words):

After Measure 117 passes this November, Oregon will transition to electing our federal and statewide candidates using ranked choice voting starting in 2028. This is a tried and tested method that is used throughout the country – with more places adopting it each year.

Right here in Oregon, voters in Benton County have been using ranked choice voting to elect local candidates for years. Here's why they are voting yes on Measure 117:

"Starting in 2020, we got to use ranked choice voting to elect people in Benton County. It feels more honest to rank the politicians in the order I want, instead of just choosing the least bad one. I'm supporting Measure 117 because it's just common sense to choose people who represent all of Oregon with ranked choice voting."

Charles Newlin, Benton County voter

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"I was pleasantly surprised with how straightforward ranked choice voting was to use. It was easy to vote. And if I only liked one candidate, I could just rank that one and not worry about the rest. I'm supporting Measure 117 because I want everyone to be able to vote this way."

Alex Polikoff, Benton County voter

{}{}{}

*"This way of voting is better for Oregon. Before we started using ranked choice voting, I was constantly voting 'against' the candidate that I *really* didn't want to win. Now, I'm able to pick my favorite candidate as my first choice and not worry about throwing my vote in the trash. Now I feel like my vote always matters."*

Bobbi Hall, Benton County voter

After Benton County voters started using ranked choice voting, it worked so well that Benton's county seat of Corvallis chose to adopt it for their local elections as well. Measure 117 will give all voters the option to vote like this starting in 2028.

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Oregon Ranked Choice Voting Advocates on behalf of Charles, Alex, and Bobbi.)

Argument in Favor

Tribal Democracy Project Supports Ranked Choice Voting

One of the missions of Tribal Democracy Project is to address voter disenfranchisement within Oregon's Tribal Communities by advocating for electoral reforms that help correct the root causes of this disenfranchisement. Native voters rightfully distrust systems that have been built to suppress or deny access. We support proven reforms that build trust in democracy, elect winners that have the support of a majority of voters and give Tribal Communities a voice. For these reasons we support ranked choice voting.

- **Measure 117 will help build trust in our democratic institutions.**

Ranked choice voting will help to build trust in the political process in our Tribal Communities, because voters will have more choices and the ability to express their preferences. More candidates will engage with Tribal Communities, and their voices are more likely to be heard.

- **Ranked choice voting is a simple, easy, and proven reform.**

Ranked choice voting has already been successfully used by millions of voters in the United States with a high degree of satisfaction. It is an intuitive and simple reform.

- **With ranked choice voting, we can vote our values without having to worry about being strategic.**

With ranked choice voting, we don't have to worry about vote splitting or choosing the lesser of two evils. We can express our values and have confidence that the winner has the support of voters.

Tribal Communities in Oregon have been chronically disenfranchised by a system they didn't choose. We're grateful the legislature had the courage to put Measure 117 on the ballot. Now it's time for the voters to take the next step. Oregon has a proud tradition of leading the way in electoral reform. It's time to do it for our Tribal Communities.

Vote Yes on Measure 117

(This information furnished by Brian C Smith, Co-Director, Tribal Democracy Project.)

Argument in Favor

WE ALL AGREE: It's time to give power back to voters.

That's why over 117 organizations representing working people, veterans, rural communities, women, farmers, people of color, business owners, young people, and more say **YES to Measure 117.**

Join trusted organizations in voting YES on Measure 117, just of few of them include:

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS & ELECTIONS EXPERTS	**COMMUNITY-BASED NONPROFITS**
League of Women Voters of Oregon	Coalition of Communities of Color
Oregon Center for Voting and Elections	Oregon Latino Health Coalition
Political science experts across Oregon*	Urban League of Portland
**for the full list of experts: yeson117.com*	Next Up Action Fund
SMALL BUSINESSES	**LABOR UNIONS**
InterWorks LLC	SEIU Oregon (Locals 49 and 503)
All Vista Travel	PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker Union
La Familia Cider Co.	American Federation of Teachers - Oregon
RURAL & FARMING ORGANIZATIONS	**CIVIL RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY GROUPS**
Rural Organizing Project	ACLU of Oregon
Tribal Democracy Project	Common Cause Oregon
Maplewood Grange #662	Basic Rights Oregon
ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS	**HEALTH, CHILD CARE, & HOUSING ADVOCATES**
Sierra Club Oregon	Cascade AIDS Project
Oregon Wild	Family Forward Oregon
	Community Alliance of Tenant

For the full list of Measure 117 supporters, visit: yeson117.com

Let's put power back in the hands of voters – **where it belongs**.

~

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Yes on 117.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 117 Is Supported by Communities of Color:

Coalition of Communities of Color

Native American Youth and Family Action Fund

Centro Cultural de Washington County

Latino Community Association

Tribal Democracy Project

Urban League of Portland

Latino Network

The Ebony Collective Coalition

Oregon Latino Health Coalition

East County Rising

APANO Action Fund

IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE

For decades, communities of color – including Asian, African American, Latino, Native American, Pacific Islander, and others – have been disenfranchised from our elections. It's time we strengthen our democracy by implementing ranked choice voting and ensuring that communities of color have a seat at the table.

GREATER VOICE

Ranked choice voting empowers all voters, especially voters of color, to vote for the candidate that shares their values, while also being able to select back-up choices. It is completely up to each voter whether they would like to rank just one candidate, or rank multiple. Ultimately, ranked choice voting will encourage voters to cast their vote for the candidate they truly want to be represented by, rather than just the candidate that has the best chance of winning or feels like the least bad option.

BETTER REPRESENTATION

By giving voters better options on our ballots, Measure 117 levels the playing field and will lead to elected bodies that are more reflective of all voters. Dozens of cities, counties and states already use ranked choice voting. And New York City elected the most diverse council in its history using ranked choice voting in 2022, featuring a majority of women and people of color.

MAJORITY SUPPORT

With Measure 117, unlike the way our elections work now, candidates will have to earn a majority of the vote to get elected. This means that the candidates will have to put in the work to reach out to more of our communities and understand the issues that everyday people are facing.

MEASURE 117 UPLIFTS OREGONIANS OF COLOR.

(This information furnished by Jenny Lee, Building Power for Communities of Color.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 117 is a benefit to ALL Oregon voters.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon represents members in communities throughout our state. For over 100 years, we in the League have volunteered to empower voters, protect the ballot and defend democracy.

We are a fiercely-nonpartisan organization in that we never support or oppose candidates or parties. Yet, we may advocate for topics we judge will serve all voters. We believe that Measure 117, incorporating Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) into our elections, is one of those issues.

Our decision to support any matter is taken only after studying the subject from all perspectives and in-depth (often 2 years). In this case, following our state studies on electoral systems, we concluded that Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) results in the best indication of voters' preferences. Back-up choices employed by RCV eliminate the pressure to vote for a less-favored candidate. Of all the possible improvements to our current election system, Ranked Choice Voting is the preferred method.

Measure 117 offers the same benefits to local Oregon cities and counties, as it includes a local election reform option. We join Leagues in other states and communities around the nation who support, or are already experiencing Ranked Choice Voting advantages. Advantages such as more voter choice, majority winners, eliminating the spoiler effect within our current election method, and encouraging more civility with less mud-slinging.

In support of robust voter education, we encourage a deeper understanding of Measure 117, and the improvements it offers. We stand ready to participate in public education and teaching voters about the power of a back-up vote with Ranked Choice Voting.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon joins leaders from our local Leagues in supporting this measure:

Deschutes County

Lincoln County

Linn County Unit

Marion & Polk Counties

Portland

Rogue Valley

Join us in Voting YES on Measure 117.

(This information furnished by Lisa Bentson.)

Argument in Favor

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon

Supports YES on 117

for More Choice & Better Voice

(on the ballot and beyond)

As politics becomes more partisan and our nation becomes more divided, it is becoming clear that each state has the responsibility to safeguard its democracy and uphold the rights of its communities.

As reproductive health and bodily autonomy are attacked across the country, we know that access to democracy at the ballot box is a top priority. We continue to see extreme political actors put forward agendas that pander to a narrow base - threatening abortion access and putting our communities at risk by attempting to cut funding for crucial services that the majority of Oregonians believe are important: maternal health, reproductive health, and health education in public schools.

This is why we believe it's time to strengthen Oregon's voting system with a simple solution: ranked choice voting.

Measure 117 enacts ranked choice voting for Oregon's federal and statewide offices, allowing Oregon voters to rank candidates in the order they prefer. Voters would have the ability to determine their 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice, and so on. This simple, effective upgrade gives voters more voice - and requires politicians to compete harder to address the things Oregonians care about.

With Measure 117, voters no longer have to use their vote to vote against someone. They can now vote for the candidate who actually shares their values. Additionally, it ensures the candidates who win actually reflect the values of the majority of voters.

We all want to be able to cast our vote with the reassurance that the candidate who is elected will represent a majority of Oregonians. Measure 117 will require that the winning

candidate receives a majority of the vote (unlike the current system). This will lead to candidates who are more accountable to Oregonians and more focused on addressing the issues we care about.

Vote YES on 117 to protect our democracy.

(This information furnished by Cassandra Purdy, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon.)

Argument in Favor

LA MEDIDA 117 BRINDA A LOS VOTANTES MÁS VOZ Y MÁS OPCIONES

La Medida 117 ofrece un mejor sistema de votación que permite a los votantes clasificar a los candidatos según su orden de preferencia. Los votantes aún pueden elegir un candidato, o pueden clasificar varios si tienen más de un candidato favorito.

VOTA POR QUIEN QUIERAS, y COMO QUIERAS

Actualmente, los votantes se sienten frustrados cuando gana el candidato que tiene los partidarios más poderosos, y que no es necesariamente el candidato que realmente nos agrada. La Medida 117 nos da la libertad de votar primero por nuestro candidato favorito, sin preocuparnos por desperdiciar nuestro voto. Si nuestra primera opción no gana, nuestro voto es aplicado hacia el candidato de nuestra segunda opción, y así se nos da más poder.

MEASURE 117 PROVIDES VOTERS MORE VOICE AND MORE CHOICE

Measure 117 offers a better voting system that allows voters to rank candidates in their order of preference. Voters can still pick one candidate, or they can choose to rank multiple if they have more than one favorite.

VOTE FOR WHO YOU WANT, and HOW YOU WANT

Currently, voters feel frustrated when the candidate that wins is the candidate that has the most powerful backers, and who is not necessarily the candidate that we actually like. Measure 117 gives us the freedom to vote for our favorite candidate first, without worrying about wasting our vote. If our first choice doesn't win, our vote is applied to the candidate of our second choice, thus giving us more power.

SUPPORTERS OF MEASURE 117/PARTIDARIOS DE LA MEDIDA 117:

- Latino Network
- Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN)
- OLHC, por sus siglas en inglés (Oregon Latino Health Coalition)
- Asociación de la Comunidad Latina (Latino Community Association)
- Centro Cultural del Condado de Washington (Centro Cultural de Washington County)
- VOZ Proyecto de Educación Sobre los Derechos de los Trabajadores (Voz Workers' Rights Education Project)
- Verde

(This information furnished by Melissa Belmontes, Oregon Latino Health Coalition.)

Argument in Favor

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 117 FOR AN EQUITABLE DEMOCRACY

Building Power for Communities of Color is an organization dedicated to collective, cross-cultural political action for racial justice in Oregon. We believe an equitable democracy is the foundation for a strong and inclusive community. Ranked choice voting is an improvement to our elections that will ensure all of our voices are heard – **which is why we support Measure 117.**

Our democracy's promise is that each of us—whether we're young or old, living in cities or rural communities, Black, white, or brown—have the right to vote for leaders who represent our communities. Allowing voters to rank candidates in order of preference is a key step to advance representation. A YES on 117 would give voters the opportunity to rank candidates in statewide and federal races, starting in 2028.

All our voices count

Oregon has long been a leader of increasing access to the ballot. As voters of color face disenfranchisement across the country, we can come together to build a more inclusive democracy here in Oregon with Measure 117.

New voices in government

Other cities that have implemented reforms like ranked choice voting have seen new voices run for office and have elected new officials who represent the people—not special interests. With ranked choice voting, candidates have to win more than 50% of the vote, which means that they have to talk about and be accountable to the issues that actually matter to real voters, not special interests.

Voting our values

With Measure 117, you will be able to choose candidates who truly represent your community and your values. When voters have more meaningful choices, they have more reason to vote. And if there's only one candidate who you can support, you can still just vote for one candidate.

Building Power for Communities of Color urges you to vote YES on Measure 117 for elections where all of us have a meaningful say in our democracy.

(This information furnished by Jenny Lee, Building Power for Communities of Color.)

Argument in Favor

SUPPORT WHO YOU WANT, HOW YOU WANT

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Sometimes your favorite ice cream flavor is sold out at the grocery store. And sometimes, the candidate you vote for doesn't win the election.

But here's the difference: You can decide to still buy your second- or third-favorite flavor at the store. You don't *have to* go home empty-handed – unlike in our elections.

It doesn't feel good to miss out. And there is far more at stake in our elections than just ending up with prune-flavored ice cream.

But right now, voting too often feels like choosing between the lesser of two evils.

Measure 117 would change that by giving us the option to rank our top choices on our ballots in order of preference: 1st choice candidate, 2nd choice candidate, 3rd choice candidate, etc. Or we can just pick one; the choice is ours.

Back-up choices give us MORE voice

Especially in crowded elections, many of us might like more than one candidate's platform. With Measure 117, you can show your support for more than just your number one pick. That way, if your favorite doesn't win, your vote still counts toward your back-up choice.

You can still vote for just ONE

Measure 117 gives us more options in how we vote. You can even rank a few candidates in one race and decide to rank *just one* candidate in a different race. The choice is YOURS.

People who vote this way PREFER it

Millions of voters already vote this way, including in Maine and even our own Benton County. Measure 117 has been tested and proven effective. And it wouldn't go into effect until 2028, giving election officials more than enough time to prepare and educate voters.

Better Choices. Back-Up Choices. Finally: Real Choices.

Vote **YES on 117**.

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Yes on 117.)

Argument in Favor

Experts in Political Science Back Measure 117

At a time in which our democracy is under attack, equipping ourselves with the facts and data is crucial. As experts in political science from across Oregon, we are committed to fair, transparent, and accountable elections. We know elections are the foundation of the democratic process, which is why we have spent years studying election reforms. We base our academic opinions on a careful look at the data.

We support Measure 117 to implement ranked choice voting because it is a simple improvement that does not favor any specific political party. It simply improves our elections for *all* voters - and ensures candidates need a majority to win, unlike now.

- **Ranked choice voting is a proven reform**. It is used globally, statewide in Maine and Alaska, and in over 50 localities across the country. It is already used in Oregon—in Benton County and Corvallis—and has been decisively approved by voters in Multnomah County.
- In places already using it, **survey after survey shows those voters overwhelmingly prefer using ranked choice voting.** And voters find it easy – people all ages, ethnicities, and backgrounds understand *how* to use it.
- Places that have switched to ranked choice voting have seen **candidates that better represent their districts and the voters in them,** and campaigns that focus more on issues and less on negative personal attacks.

Ultimately, Measure 117 is good policy - for democracy and for voters.

Mark Stephan, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Washington State University-Vancouver

Jack Miller, Ph.D., Teaching Assistant Professor, Portland State University

Anne Santiago, Ph.D., Associate Professor, University of Portland

Ian McDonald, Ph.D.

All views are solely the views of those participating and are not meant to reflect the perspectives of their universities.

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[For further reading: See fairvote.org/our-reforms/ranked-choice-voting/endorsers/ for a list of the many Nobel Prize laureates and dozens of political science experts supporting ranked choice voting across the country.]

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Yes on 117: It's a Smart Upgrade.)

Argument in Favor

A Message from The Vocal Seniority and Portland Gray Panthers PAC

OREGON SENIORS ORGANIZATIONS URGE A YES VOTE ON MEASURE 117

As organizations, we represent a generation of Oregonians who helped build and defend our nation, our state, our communities, and our democracy. We also remember a time when, despite our differences, coming together for the common good was the rule, not the exception that it has become today.

That is why we strongly support Measure 117.

Our election system has become dominated by special interest spending, driving a system that rewards candidates that appeal to narrow parts of the electorate. This often leaves us in November with a single vote between two alternatives that most voters are unhappy with.

By giving us the option to rank multiple candidates according to how much they match our values and priorities, Measure 117 will give us better options for making our voices heard. We have carefully reviewed this measure, and here are some reasons we're urging a Yes vote:

- **Majority Representation:** Under our current system, a candidate can win with as little as less than 30% of the vote. Measure 117 fixes that by guaranteeing that our elected leaders are supported by a majority of Oregonians - as their first, second, or third choice.
- **It's Simple:** Look at all the candidates, and simply rank them according to how much you like them. If you don't like a candidate, don't rank them. If you only like one, you can vote for only that person, just like you do now.
- **It Works:** Ranked Choice Voting is being used successfully by millions of voters in over 50 places around the nation, including right here in Oregon.

Over our lifetimes, we've invested a lot in Oregon and our democracy. We want to pass it on with at least as bright a future as was passed to us.

Please help us do that by joining us in voting Yes on Measure 117

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Yes on 117.)

Argument in Favor

117 ORGANIZATIONS SAY YES ON MEASURE 117

<> FOR MORE VOICE AND MORE CHOICE<>

Organizations that advocate for better government and who represent hundreds of thousands of Oregonians are supporting Measure 117.

View the full list at www.yeson117.com.

League of Women of Voters of Oregon	Veterans for All Voters
Oregon Education Association (OEA)	Sierra Club Oregon
PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker Union	Next Up Action Fund
SEIU Oregon (Locals 49 and 503)	ACLU of Oregon
American Federation of Teachers - Oregon	Oregon AFSCME
United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 555	Basic Rights Oregon
Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon	Urban League of Portland
Coalition of Communities of Color	Rural Organizing Project
American Association of University Professors - Oregon	Oregon Wild
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility	Tribal Democracy Project
Women's Foundation of Oregon	APANO Action Fund
The Ebony Collective Coalition	The Vocal Seniority
Springfield Eugene Tenant Association	Family Forward Oregon
Southern Oregon Food Solutions	350PDX
Latino Community Association	All Oregon Votes
Central Beaverton Business Association	Indivisible Sisters
Greater Hells Canyon Council	The Street Trust
OPAL Environmental Justice	East County Rising

Centro Cultural de Washington County	Vote Run Lead Action
Southern Oregon Housing for All	Oregonizers
Native American Youth and Family Action Fund	Prism Health
Hacienda Community Development Corporation	Verde
Southern Oregon Climate Action Now (SOCAN)	Allyship in Action
Community Alliance of Tenants	Cascade AIDS Project
Oregon Latino Health Coalition	Latino Network
Oregon Health Equity Alliance	Oregon State Voice

::::::| Visit www.yeson117.com to see the full list. |::::::

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Yes on 117.)

Argument in Favor

There are strong reasons to support Ranked Choice Voting through Measure 117. Chief among them is its effect on lessening polarization. Extreme polarization is concerning in America, even in Oregon.

With the current election system, too often candidates are rewarded for bad behavior, amplifying divisiveness, partisan rancor, and rigid ideologies. This short-circuits productive discussion and promotes "us versus them" attitudes. The goal becomes winning at all costs – not compromising for the good of the people.

With Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), campaigns tend to be more civil, since it benefits candidates to seek support beyond their base. A candidate must not only win a voter's first choice, but also appeal to those who would rank them 2nd or 3rd. With RCV, candidates must court all voters. They must broaden their positions, speak about policy, and curb highly partisan rhetoric.

There's more. Advantages of Ranked Choice Voting, clearly benefit all voters.

- **Majority rule is a fundamental principle of a democratic republic. Measure 117 ensures that winning candidates capture broad, majority support.**
- **Tested and proven, RCV respects one person, one vote. It simply uses one ballot choice as the active vote at any one time.**
- **The League believes in 'sincere' voting without needing to be 'strategic.' Voters can express true preferences, knowing further choices never hurt their favorite candidate. They need not strategize as to how their ballot could protect or hurt their favorite choices.**
- **With RCV, voters have more voice and more expressive choices, with fewer unused votes in final round.**
- **RCV can buffer the influence of special interests by giving voters equal voice in governance (through the ballot box versus checkbook.)**
- **RCV Ensures a more meaningful ballot despite the leanings of where you live. An urban Republican or a Democrat farming in rural Oregon – both benefit.**
- **Measure 117 allows us to vote for WHO we want, HOW we want.**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon strongly encourages a YES vote on Measure 117.

(This information furnished by Lisa Bentson, President, The League of Women Voters of Oregon.)

Argument in Favor

We're Republican, Democrat, and independent voters

Measure 117 Benefits Us All.

We might be on different ends of the political spectrum, but we're on the same page when it comes to our political system. The status quo is NOT serving everyday Oregonians.

It's time to pass Measure 117 to give voters more voice and better choices.

"I vote, but I don't always feel heard. Being in the minority here in Oregon, I'm forced to either throw away my vote on someone who won't win, or support someone I don't like a whole lot. That doesn't feel like much of a choice. ***I'm supporting Measure 117 so we can vote for the candidate we actually like best, without worrying about wasting our vote.****"*

- Martha R., Clackamas County Republican

"I'm supporting Measure 117 because we need better ways to hold elected leaders accountable. *Right now, someone in a crowded field of candidates can win even if they earn just 30% of the vote. That means a majority of Oregonians didn't want to see that candidate get elected, which is a problem. Measure 117 allows voters to rank candidates, which requires a candidate to earn the support of a majority of Oregonians with varying interests and concerns."*

- Ingrid E., Jackson County Democrat

"The two major parties don't always offer us the best choices. And they seem to be run by special interests that wield too much influence over who wins elections. ***As an independent voter, I'm supporting 117 to shift power into the hands of the people****. It's time to give voters more voice and better choices in our elections.*

-Savannah E., Multnomah County independent

Please join us in bringing some common sense and common ground to our politics.

Vote YES on Measure 117.

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Oregon Voters for Measure 117.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 117 is a straightforward upgrade to how we vote.

Here's how it works:

Measure 117 gives voters the option to rank candidates on their ballot in order of preference: their first choice, second choice, third choice, and so on. Voters may still choose to support only one candidate, as they do now.

If a candidate gets over 50% of the vote (a majority), they win! If no candidate wins over 50% of the vote, the candidate who received the fewest votes loses. Those ballots are then instantly counted for those voters' next-highest ranked candidate.

This process continues until a single candidate receives over 50% of the vote. This ensures that voters don't have to worry about throwing their vote away on a lesser-known candidate, giving them more choices.

It also gives new and different candidates a chance to run for office. Ranked choice voting would be available for primary and general elections for President, U.S. Senate, Congress, and statewide offices.

Several local governments in Oregon already use some version of this system, as do over 50 different places around the country.

Millions of people vote this way - and research shows those voters greatly prefer it.

Measure 117 also requires a voter education program to ensure voters understand it, and support other local governments if they choose to use ranked choice voting for local offices. It would not go into effect until 2028.

Benton County voters already vote this way here in Oregon, you can visit their website, www.bentonbetterballot.com, to see an example of a ranked choice ballot and a video of how it works.

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Executive Director ORRCV.)

Argument in Favor

~~~> <u>SMALL BUSINESSES</u> <~~~

~ SAY YES ON MEASURE 117 ~

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Small businesses play a vital role in Oregon's economy and in our communities in every corner of the state. **As small business owners in your community, we ask you to support Measure 117 and ranked choice voting. Here's why it matters to all Oregonians:**

1. **Stronger Local Economy:** Ranked choice voting leads to elected officials who better understand and support small businesses. When we thrive, we create more local jobs and contribute more to our community.
2. **Your Voice Matters More:** Measure 117 allows you to rank candidates, giving you more say in who represents us. It means politicians will have to listen to a broader range of voices, including small business concerns.
3. **Focus on Real Issues:** Ranked choice voting encourages candidates to run on ideas, not attacks. This helps you make informed decisions on policies that affect your daily life and our local economy.
4. **Community Cooperation:** Measure 117 will promote coalition-building, helping create policies that benefit the entire community, not just special interests.

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Jose Gonzalez, Co-Owner, La Familia Cider (Salem, OR)

Rhonda Reister, Central Beaverton Business Association (Beaverton, OR)

Clark Luse, Owner, Latest Undercar Service Equipment (Prineville, OR)

Diana Klochkova, Owner, Zaya LLC (Hood River, OR)

Louis Burns, Owner, Laurie's Books, (Oregon City, OR)

Debbie Kitchin, Owner, InterWorks LLC (Willamette Valley, OR)

Stephanie Kotaniemi, Founder, SK Photography (Portland, OR)

Jen Jackson, Owner, All Vista Travel (Dallas, OR)

Amber & Toni Brennan, Owners, Plush Tattoo (Portland, OR)

Kevin Davey, Co-Owner, Heater Allen Brewing (McMinnville, OR)

Ingrid Edstrom, CEO, Priestess for Profits LLC (Ashland, OR)

Eli Spevak, Owner, Orange Splot LLC (Portland, OR)

Gary Smith, Owner, TravelPerks (Eugene, OR)

Devin Mense, Owner, Yokai Musubi (Portland, OR)

Brett Cope, Owner, Cascade Create LLC (Hood River, OR)

(visit <u>www.yeson117.com</u> to see the full list)

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(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, with Small Business Owners for Measure 117.)

Argument in Favor

THE OREGON CENTER FOR VOTING AND ELECTIONS

RECOMMENDS A

"YES"

VOTE ON MEASURE 117

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Right now, Oregon voters' opinion of our elected officials is at an all-time low. Measure 117 offers a simple and proven way to begin fixing our politics by giving more power to Oregon voters.

Our mission is to analyze potential improvements to voting and elections that would make Oregon's government better represent voters. We support Measure 117 because it is a proven step towards better governance through better elections.

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-------------------> **[*TWO PROBLEMS*]**

Two problems that voters often face are:

1. ***Limited Choices:*** *<u>Voters only have a choice between two candidates</u> who often do not reflect the views of a majority of voters, or*
2. ***"Spoiled" Elections:*** *When more than two candidates are running, voters are <u>forced into compromising on who they vote for</u> - because they know their favorite candidate cannot win.*

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[*ONE SOLUTION*] <---------------------------------------

Measure 117 helps solve these problems with ranked choice voting. Ranked choice voting is a simple, proven upgrade to elections being steadily adopted by states, counties, and cities across the United States.

1. ***Better choices:*** *Places that have adopted laws like Measure 117 see better candidates running – and these better candidates win, because they represent a majority of voters in their district.*
2. ***Majority Winners:*** *Voters have more choice. By having the option to rank candidates on the ballot, voters can support their preferred candidate without worrying about who is likeliest to win.*

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While Measure 117 won't solve all of our problems, it gives voters more power and it will help ensure those who represent Oregon better represent Oregonians.

Election experts agree: Please join us in voting "Yes" on Measure 117.

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Co-Founder of Oregon Center for Voting and Elections, a nonpartisan group working to make government work better for all Oregonians.)

Argument in Favor

Oregon's Teachers Support Measure 117

As educators, we want our students to have their voices heard and grow into active, contributing members of society. We want to give them the hope and reassurance that every vote counts.
<u>That's why we support Measure 117.</u>

Here are a few of the reasons we're joining dozens of trusted organizations, like the League of Women Voters of Oregon, <u>in urging a 'YES' on Measure 117</u>:

- <u>Voting YES gives us more power to hold elected leaders accountable.</u> Right now, special interests have too much sway over our political system, and Measure 117 gives voters more voice. That means we will hold our leaders accountable to deliver the things students and families actually need, like more mental health support in school and smaller class sizes.
- <u>Voting YES encourages fresh perspectives in politics.</u> Studies show that in cities, counties, and states where ranked choice voting is already used, more young people and first-time candidates run for office – leading to new voices, rather than the same old politics we are used to.
- <u>Voting YES makes elections represent the will of the voters.</u> Right now in Oregon, there are times when someone can win, despite getting less than 50% of the vote—sometimes less than 30%! Even the youngest math students understand that's NOT a majority. Measure 117 will help us elect the leaders that the most Oregonians agree on.
- <u>Voting YES gives us more reasons to participate in</u>
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democracy. We know that our democracy only works when people vote. Yet, we often hear from students who feel disheartened even before they are old enough to vote. When we have better choices on the ballot, we strengthen democracy for the next generation.

Please join us in voting YES on 117.

American Association of University Professors - Oregon
American Federation of Teachers - Oregon
Oregon Education Association (OEA)
Chloe Hughes, Professor, Western Oregon University
Hollie Oakes-Miller, Faculty, Portland Community College

(This information furnished by Andrea Haverkamp, American Federation of Teachers - Oregon.)

Argument in Favor

Oregon AFSCME endorses Measure 117 on behalf of our 33,000 members!

Labor organizations like ours are long standing leaders in the fight to improve our elections, expand our democracy, and give workers more power. Nowhere do we have more power as Oregonians than on our ballots. That's why we support Measure 117 – because ranked choice voting will give more voice to all Oregon voters.

"I like the way ranked choice voting works. We're not always happy with the options on the ballot, especially the ones who have the best shot at winning. I'd like to vote for the candidate I really believe in, but I know better than to waste my vote when there's so much on the line for working people. With ranked choice voting, not only will I have more options, but I can make myself heard. That matters to me because my vote is my voice in our democracy.

At Oregon AFSCME, we know how important our votes are. Whether it's having a say in our organization's leadership or on the future direction of the entire country, we always make sure to turn out. Measure 117 will make our votes even more powerful, and will reduce the influence of money in politics, since the winning candidate will now have to earn a majority of the votes from Oregonians - unlike now."

-Lamar Wise, Oregon AFSCME

Give more voice to our members, workers across the state, and Oregon voters like yourself by saying **YES to Measure 117**.

Oregon AFSCME

(This information furnished by Lamar Wise, Oregon AFSCME.)

Argument in Favor

MEASURE 117 GIVES US A REAL SAY IN OUR ELECTIONS

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It's clear our elections are not serving Oregonians as well as they could. Right now, in crowded races, candidates consistently win with less than a majority of support—meaning that most voters voted for someone else.

In Oregon, **over half ** of the candidates who won in statewide and federal races in the 2020 and 2022 primaries won with less than 50% of the vote.

When candidates win with less than a majority, they aren't accountable to our communities. They're only accountable to the narrow base that got them elected – and the special interests that keep them elected – leaving voters without a say.

Measure 117 fixes that by ensuring candidates win with over 50% of the vote. That means we have more say in choosing the winning candidate.

That's because **Measure 117 not only gives us the ability to choose our favorite candidates, but also any backup candidates we like** – without worrying about throwing away our votes.

Measure 117 puts the power in our hands to elect people who are more representative of Oregonians. Since candidates will now have to earn a majority of support (unlike how they do now) they will have to do the work to reach out to more communities beyond just their base. As a voter, you'll get to hear about how candidates plan to address the big issues in our state, and ultimately, the winning candidate will better understand what Oregonians are facing.

Measure 117 gives us the ability to elect leaders who prioritize the issues that matter most to us. Getting to rank backup choices gives us the power to elect candidates that truly represent us—not just the candidate with the most powerful backers. And candidates will be encouraged to focus on running campaigns based on real issues, rather than attacking other candidates.

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YES ON MEASURE 117

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POWER FOR VOTERS

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR POLITICIANS

****

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Co-Founder of Oregon RCV.)

Argument in Favor

Dear Oregon Voters,

I vote in Maine, and I'm submitting this letter from across the country about Measure 117 because we've been using ranked choice voting here for years. Even though our states may look different, I think we can both agree that our democracy feels disheartening right now.

Every time I open my phone to scroll the news or chat with a neighbor about what is happening in politics, I'm reminded that our country has more work to do to promote a common-sense and functioning democracy.

That's why I was thrilled when I saw that Oregon has the chance to switch to ranked choice voting and join Maine and the dozens of other places in the U.S. already voting this way.

Before using ranked choice voting, I always felt like I only had a choice between two candidates who didn't necessarily represent me or what I believed in. Now, **I can rank the candidate I like best first, while also having back-up options** in case my first choice doesn't win.

It's not a big change: when I receive my ballot, I still make sure I've done my research. Except now, I get to rank my favorite candidates in the order I want. Or, I can just choose to vote for one. I get to decide.

It feels great to vote for who I want. No more feeling like I have to choose between the lesser of two evils. *And I finally feel like my voice is being heard.* Even if my top choice doesn't win, I'm not wasting my vote anymore.

I really enjoy voting this way, and I think Oregonians will find it refreshing too. Maine voters passed a similar measure to Measure 117 a few years ago, and it was 100% the right choice. That's why I encourage you to **vote YES on Measure 117.**

Signed,

Alex Newell Taylor

Southwest Harbor, Maine Voter

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, on behalf of Alex Newell Taylor, Maine Voter.)

Argument in Favor

The City Club of Portland recommends a "YES" vote on Measure 117 for Ranked-Choice Voting.

Since 1916, the City Club has analyzed and addressed important issues in an impartial, nonpartisan environment.

After extensive research and interviews, we conclude that Instant Runoff Ranked-Choice Voting represents a clear improvement to the current system. We recommend voting "yes" on Measure 117.

By allowing voters to more fully express their preferences, Instant Runoff **Ranked-Choice Voting is a positive, impactful change** that substantially increases the likelihood that the winning candidate reflects the majority of voters' preferred choice.

It is a proven, well-tested voting method, used in six states, over 50 municipalities in the U.S., and numerous countries around the world.

Attributes the City Club of Portland noted are that Instant Runoff Ranked-Choice Voting:

- Reduces the chance of vote splitting and the spoiler effect, in which voting for politically similar candidates divides support between them. By ranking candidates, the election results will more accurately reflect who Oregonians want representing them.
- Decreases the possibility of wasting your vote. If a voter's top choice is for a less popular candidate, their vote will still count towards their next preferred candidate if their first choice is eliminated.
- Enhances candidate engagement with voters. Candidates are encouraged to appeal to a broader audience to gain second and third-choice votes beyond just primary supporters.
- Incentivizes a more diverse group of candidates. By reducing the fear of vote splitting, candidates can run with less worry about taking votes from another candidate with similar values and becoming a spoiler.
- Results in more positive campaigning and increased outreach, as candidates strategically seek the second or third votes. In places that use Ranked-Choice Voting, research has shown it promotes more positive campaigning, focusing primarily on candidates' platforms and qualifications.

Vote YES on Measure 117.

To read our full report, visit: pdxcityclub.org

(This information furnished by Christopher Howard, Secretary of City Club of Portland.)

Argument in Favor

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We're ALL Oregonians, and we ALL deserve a say. But right now, RURAL VOTERS ARE OVERLOOKED in Oregon politics, even though we are the backbone of Oregon's fishing, timber, forestry, ranching and other crucial industries.

Our communities are NOT all on the I-5 corridor. Our communities worry about the lack of water, broken roads, empty businesses, and disappearing jobs. With every passing year it becomes more clear that it's time for RURAL COMMUNITIES to be PRIORITIZED.

That's why, as voters and organizations from rural Oregon, we ask Oregonians in all four corners to join us in voting **YES for Measure 117.**

RURAL COMMUNITIES FOR

MEASURE 117

Measure 117 will **EMPOWER RURAL VOTERS** by giving us:

More Say and Fewer Wasted Votes

Let's face the facts: rural voices are often outnumbered and overshadowed in Oregon's elections. But Measure 117 will require that the winning candidate receives support from a majority of Oregonians, not just from one corner of the state. It also eliminates the problem of two similar candidates splitting voters with similar values, encouraging positive campaigns instead of candidates cutting one another down.

Better Choices

With Measure 117 we have more power when voting. And with more candidates encouraged to run, we will get better options on our ballots. That's a win for ALL Oregonians.

New Perspectives and New Candidates

Measure 117 will make it easier to elect people who get us, NOT the same-old same-old politicians. Measure 117 opens the door for candidates from communities who have far too often been shut out of the conversation.

Please join us in voting YES ON MEASURE 117.

Rural Organizing Project

Tribal Democracy Project

Maplewood Grange #662

League of Women Voters - Umpqua Valley

Southern Oregon Housing for All

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(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni.)

Argument in Favor

Environmental Leaders Vote YES on Measure 117

350 PDX
OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon
Oregon Wild
Rogue Climate
Southern Oregon Climate Action Now (SOCAN)
Sierra Club
Sunrise PDX
Verde
Greater Hells Canyon Council
Making Earth Cool
Robertson Environmental LLC

We need leaders that will be accountable to **OUR** communities. That is why environmental advocates across the state agree: **Vote YES on Measure 117!**

As Oregonians, we understand the devastating effects that climate change already has on our communities and on the natural environment of our special state. **We need leaders who will prioritize swift and meaningful action to stop the worst effects of climate change and slow the biodiversity crisis emergency we are currently facing.**

Unfortunately, right now, our election system doesn't require candidates to have broad support in order to win – which can result in elected leaders who prioritize the needs of special interests instead of the issues affecting the majority of us. **We need a change that helps guarantee our leaders are listening to us and fighting to protect our state.**

Measure 117 gives us back control to elect leaders who put solutions first. That's because ranked choice voting allows us to vote for leaders who are accountable to our communities, without worrying about "wasting" our votes on a candidate that can't win.

Let's say your first choice is a candidate whose main platform is addressing climate change. If that first choice candidate loses, your vote still counts for your next choice, who perhaps is a candidate whose main platform is healthcare, but they also support climate action. In the current system, your vote for the first candidate would just be wasted. **Measure 117 gives you the option of having a backup choice so you don't throw your vote away.**

Our elected officials make critical decisions every day about our environment. We deserve to have leaders that will take action on climate change.

Please vote YES on 117!

(This information furnished by Damon C Motz-Storey, Director, Oregon Sierra Club PAC.)

Argument in Favor

How Your New Voting Options Work if Measure 117 Passes

If voters approve Measure 117, Oregon will elect statewide and federal candidates using a method called "ranked choice voting." This method is used in many cities, counties and states around the country (including Benton County and Corvallis) with millions of Americans already electing their representatives using ranked choice voting.

Here's how it works:

When you're filling out your ballot, you have the option to rank candidates running for the same office in order of your preference (first-choice, second choice, third choice, and so on.)

>>

If you only like one or two of the candidates, you do not have to rank any additional candidates. You can simply rank the ones you like and move on.

<<

After all ballots are recieved by county elections officials, votes are counted and results reported.

>>

If one candidate receives a majority (more than 50%) of the first-choice votes, they win and are elected.

<<

If none of the candidates receive a majority of the votes, the candidate with the fewest first-choice votes is defeated. If you ranked that defeated candidate as your first choice, your vote will now instantly be counted for your *next choice* candidate.

>>

This process continues automatically until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast. When one single candidate reaches more than 50% of the votes, they are declared the winner. This ensures that politicians are required to win with a majority of support (unlike now).

<<

Ranked choice voting gives voters like us a stronger voice in our elections, and national studies show it leads to a more accountable government and more representative leaders.

To learn more about Measure 117, please visit YesOn117.com

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Executive Director Oregon Center for Voting and Elections.)

Argument in Favor

The Native American Youth and Family Action Fund and Tribal Democracy Project Support Measure 117

As organizations that advocate for Tribal Communities and Native voters throughout Oregon, we know a lack of trust in our electoral institutions is one of the largest barriers to voting for our communities. To address Native voter disenfranchisement, we need simple, easy, and proven reforms such as ranked choice voting that work to build trust in our electoral processes.

We support ranked choice voting for the following reasons:

- **More meaningful choices**

Ranked choice voting will empower voters to rank the candidates they genuinely agree with. At the same time, it will encourage more candidates that better reflect our communities to run for office.

- **Voting our values**

We're trapped in a system where we're forced to choose between the lesser of two evils. This discourages a lot of voters in our communities, reinforcing a feeling of hopelessness. With ranked choice voting, we don't have to worry about voting "strategically." We can express our values on the ballot without wasting our votes.

- **Majority rules**

With ranked choice voting, we can be confident that candidates who win have the broad support of the electorate, as they will be required to win with a majority of the vote, unlike right now. We will have outcomes we can trust.

- **Proven system that voters like**

Millions of voters have used ranked choice voting in the United States, and research shows a much higher degree of satisfaction compared to the status quo. At the same time, we see more women and people of color being elected.

"Ranked choice voting is a proven, time-tested system that will help deliver many of the results we need for our Tribal and Native communities. It's time for Oregon to lead the way in Native voter enfranchisement." -Brian Smith (Citizen of the Muscogee Nation), Co-Director of Tribal Democracy Project

Vote Yes on Measure 117

(This information furnished by Brian C Smith, Co-Director, Tribal Democracy Project.)

Argument in Favor

My name is Nathanael, and I am an independent voter in Oregon. **I don't belong to any political party, that's one reason I'm voting YES on 117.**

When I fill out my ballot, my biggest concern isn't what party a candidate belongs to. That's why, like countless Oregonians, I'm not affiliated with any political party.

- I care about whether they share my values and priorities.
- I care about whether they have experience that will make them good at the job.
- I care if they have a record in office or in life that tells me I can have confidence that they will do what they say they will.

And I would like to have some choices that are more than just a thumbs up or thumbs down on a single candidate from one political party. That's not how we make important decisions in our lives, and it doesn't make sense for it to be how we make decisions on Election Day.

That is why I support Measure 117 – a smarter way to choose our leaders.

Measure 117 will allow me to look at all the candidates and rank them based on who I think will be best at the job. If my first choice doesn't make it, my vote will still count. Folks I don't support? They don't get ranked.

Why does that make a difference for an independent voter like me? It means candidates can appeal to me based on the quality of their ideas, not just based on my having to choose what I might see as the least bad of two options.

People all over the country use ranked choice voting, and they like it because it works. It gives them more choice and a stronger voice. That's what I want for Oregon, too.

Please join me in voting YES on Measure 117

Nathanael A. (not registered with a political party)

Portland, Oregon

(This information furnished by Nathanael D Allen.)

Argument in Favor

TRUSTED ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS OREGON RECOMMEND A "YES" VOTE ON MEASURE 117

Grassroots organizations, small businesses, local civic groups, and everyday Oregonians are coming together to improve our elections by saying YES to MEASURE 117.

YES on Measure 117 gives us ALL more power to make our voices count. Measure 117 will improve Oregon's elections by giving us the opportunity to rank the candidates on our ballots using ranked choice voting.

Over 13 million voters already use ranked choice voting across the United States – **including many here in Oregon – and studies show those voters overwhelmingly prefer it to how we vote now.**

JOIN US and VOTE YES on Measure 117 by November 5th.

- League of Women Voters of Oregon
- Veterans for All Voters
- United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 555
- Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
- Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon
- SEIU Oregon (Locals 49 and 503)
- Oregon AFSCME
- Sierra Club Oregon
- Oregon Education Association (OEA)
- Central Beaverton Business Association
- Women's Foundation of Oregon
- ACLU of Oregon
- Family Forward Oregon
- American Federation of Teachers - Oregon
- American Association of University Professors - Oregon
- Urban League of Portland
- Latino Network
- APANO Action Fund
- Basic RightsOregon
- Centro Cultural de Washington County
- Native American Youth and Family Action Fund
- The Ebony Collective Coalition
- Tribal Democracy Project
- Community Alliance of Tenants
- Oregon Futures Lab
- Rural Organizing Project
- Hacienda Community Development Corporation
- Southern Oregon Housing for All
- PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker Union
- And dozens more.... See the full list at www.yeson117.com

To learn more and view the the full list of everyone who says **YES on Measure 117**, visit: yeson117.com/endorsers

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Yes on 117.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 117 Empowers Women

Our history shows us that it was a long struggle for women to secure the right to vote in our country. Countless activists, mothers, students, community leaders, and civic organizations led the charge to allow women's voices to be heard in our elections.

Although women have since gained access to the ballot, we are far from achieving equity in our electoral system. Women are vastly underrepresented in elected bodies across the country, and that leads to a lack of urgency on the issues that significantly affect women in our communities.

This is why organizations that empower women—and ALL voters— are rallying behind Measure 117: to ensure we are one step closer to creating fair elections for everyone in Oregon.

Measure 117 would allow voters to rank their preferred candidates on their ballot, so that voters can express their preferences more meaningfully. Voters no longer have to worry about "spoiling" an election, and can now vote for the candidate they feel best represents their issues, rather than the candidate who has the best chance of winning. This also means women running don't have to worry about taking votes away from their peers, since voters can rank all the candidates they agree with.

In the places that use ranked choice voting, more women run for office and win. **A more representative democracy means that our leaders can better address the issues Oregonians experience**. In 2022, ranked choice voting helped to elect New York City's first majority-women council. The council was able to prioritize issues related to maternal health, reproductive rights, childcare access, and more.

We don't all advocate for the same candidates (League of Women Voters of Oregon does not endorse candidates), but we can all agree that our democracy works best when it is truly built for all voters.

Sincerely,
Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon
League of Women Voters of Oregon
Women's Foundation of Oregon
Vote Run Lead Action

(This information furnished by Libra Forde, Women's Foundation of Oregon.)

Argument in Favor

Vote YES on Measure 117 to help make our elected leaders work for us.

All you have to do is look around to see that something is broken in politics today. One big reason? To have a chance to get elected in November, politicians have to appeal to the political extremes and special interest funders. So ultimately, that is who they are accountable to.

That's why, by the time November rolls around, we often get stuck between two choices we don't really like. Our current system makes elections more and more divisive and makes our elected officials less and less likely to put aside their differences to get things done for Oregonians.

Measure 117 changes this by giving us the option to rank candidates according to how much they align with our values and priorities, instead of feeling pressured to vote for someone because they are more likely to win. And because our vote can count for our second or third choice if our favorite doesn't make it through, our choices will have more impact on the outcome. **Candidates will have to appeal to a broader group of Oregonians to succeed**, not just the extremes.

That's how ranked choice voting has worked in over 50 places around the country, including a few places right here in Oregon. Voters find it simple to use. And they like the results.

Measure 117 allows us to have more and better choices, which will make it more likely that we will have elected leaders who see themselves as accountable to regular people. Measure 117 won't solve every problem we face as a state or a nation, but this proven system will help make things better.

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Yes on 117: Make Our Elected Officials Work for Us.)

Argument in Favor

PEOPLE OF FAITH FOR 117

If you are tired of voting for candidates you don't have faith in, vote YES on 117.

People of faith, or none at all, agree that our democracy should be fair, encourage participation, and ensure everyone's voice is heard. But too often we are forced to make simplistic choices in our politics, when we should be able to unite our values with our vote. **This is why, as people of faith, we support Measure 117: to help Oregon better live up to its promise of being a place where we work together as a community.**

Our state is home to people from all walks of life — yet our elections don't always reflect that. Oftentimes, communities who are most impacted by the decisions our elected leaders make are the voices that are left out of those decisions. Faith organizations are at the front lines of providing services and support to communities often left behind — such as the unhoused and the hungry, survivors of domestic violence, immigrants and refugees, seniors, and many others.

Our mission is to help Oregonians lead healthy, vibrant, and civically-engaged lives in service to our neighbors. We believe strengthening our voting system is fundamental to achieving this. Oregonians have strong values that guide their daily lives. We should be able to vote for candidates who share these principles without worrying that we will waste our votes.

With Measure 117, voters will be able to vote their values by having the option to support candidates they agree with. Rather than being forced into a choice we do not like, we will be able to say this candidate is my first choice and if they don't win, here's the other candidate I would prefer.

Measure 117 will help create a democracy in which voters can vote for those they truly believe in.

In solidarity,

Sister Cora Rose, Lutheran Community Leader

Rev. Ron Werner Jr, Together Lab

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Yes On 117: More Voice, More Choice.)

Argument in Favor

YES on Measure 117!

Measure 117 would give all Oregonians the option to rank candidates on their ballots. Over 13 million voters across the country are already using ranked choice voting. Voters in these places overwhelmingly find it **easy to use** and **prefer it** to how we vote now.

Here's what voters who already use ranked choice voting say:

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MAJORITY REPRESENTATION

"**Ranked choice voting is… an election integrity measure** because it greatly increases the likelihood that the winner of a…election is supported by a majority of voters."

- Rob Latham of St. George, UT (*The Salt Lake Tribune*, 7/25/23)

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BETTER REPRESENTATION

"**We've already seen ranked choice voting lead to higher turnout, more diverse choices for voters and more broadly representative elected officials.** Ranked choice voting can help heal our political divisions and make our elections more inclusive, civil and representative at a time when we desperately need improvements."

- Rob Machalek of St. Louis Park, Minnesota (*Sun Sailor*, 10/25/23)

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EASY TO USE

"**The ballots are clear and easy.**"

– Ron Bilancia of Brewer, Maine (*Bangor Daily News*, 4/1/2023)

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MORE VIEWPOINTS

"There was an independent third party candidate who said out loud that she would not have run if it hadn't been for ranked choice voting because she knew she would be a spoiler. **But with ranked choice voting, she could run, make a campaign, she could have her voice heard, she could contribute to the conversation**."

- Ann Luther of Maine (*On Point*, 3/19/24)

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MORE VOTER POWER

"A great idea. . . If your first candidate isn't chosen, **your voice is still heard**."

- Eileen Kropf of Arlington, Virginia (*Virginia Mercury*, 6/20/23)

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Let's join the many places who already use and prefer voting this way by voting "Yes" on Measure 117!

(This information furnished by Caroline Phillips, Oregon Ranked Choice Voting Advocates.)

Argument in Favor

MEASURE 117 STRENGTHENS OUR DEMOCRACY FOR ALL OREGONIANS

Our mission at **Basic Rights Oregon** is to help build an inclusive society that ensures LGBTQ+ Oregonians have full rights to be our authentic selves, love who we love, and safely exist in public and private. To achieve that vision, we must strengthen the fabric of our democracy, including our electoral system — **which is why we are asking you to join us in voting YES on Measure 117.**

LGBTQ+ Oregonians have struggled to see themselves reflected or embraced in our institutions, from the workplace to elected office. We've made progress over the years, but our communities continue to face harassment, discrimination, and violence, which has a chilling effect.

We still have more work to do. Across Oregon, we have seen a rise in anti-LGBTQ+ candidates winning local office and it is deeply concerning. LGBTQ+ elected leaders have faced disproportionate harassment and threats, sometimes even leading them to step down from office.

Not only does this rhetoric affect LGBTQ+ youth and our community as a whole, but it also fuels an overall environment rooted in hatred rather than tolerance.

We believe that the Oregon way is to uphold respect for our neighbors in this place we all call home. **Measure 117 will broaden our democracy by helping more candidates of diverse community backgrounds run for office**. By creating a place for more people at the table, big decisions will have more comprehensive solutions. **We also believe that having election outcomes that better represent what Oregon looks like will promote a culture of inclusivity, open-mindedness, and belonging.**

Salt Lake City is just one example of what can happen if we pass Measure 117 and ranked choice voting: more women, people of color, young people, and LGBTQ+ candidates run for office and win.

We hope you will join us in passing Measure 117, a simple upgrade to our elections for statewide and federal offices.

— Basic Rights Oregon

(This information furnished by Gabriel M Gardiner, Basic Rights Oregon.)

Argument in Favor

GET THE FACTS ABOUT RANKED CHOICE VOTING

Measure 117 will implement ranked choice voting across Oregon for state and federal elections. It's supported by hundreds of community organizations, elections experts, and local leaders.

- Since 2004, there have been over 500 ranked choice voting elections in the U.S.
- Over 13 million U.S. voters are already using ranked choice voting
- In 2016, only ten cities used ranked choice voting. Now in 2024, ranked choice voting is used in in 51 states, cities, and counties across the U.S.
- Benton County was the first county in Oregon to use ranked choice voting, approved by voters in 2016
- Ranked choice voting is used in places ranging from Utah to Minnesota to Virginia
- Maine and Alaska were the first two states to adopt ranked choice voting for statewide elections

Data on Benefits of Using Ranked Choice Voting

- **73% of voters prefer ranked choice voting in the places where it is already used, compared to our current system**

  (Average of surveys taken from exit poll results after voters use ranked choice voting. Surveys at fairvote.org, last updated June 2024)

- **Studies show that ranked choice voting leads to less negative campaign rhetoric**

  "Santa Fe Voters Support Ranked Choice Voting and have High Confidence in City Elections" Fairvote.org, exit Survey Analysis from March 6, 2018

- **Places using ranked choice voting see more candidates who look like their communities – for example, men and women win elections at more equal rates, unlike now**

  "Memo: Ranked Choice Voting and Women's Representation" RepresentWomen.org, released January 2023

LEARN MORE at YESon117.com

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Executive Director | Oregon Center for Voting and Elections.)

Argument in Favor

If you want less corruption in politics, less money stolen from your wallet by greedy big corporations, and less fighting between political left and political right, vote **YES** to adopt Measure 117.

Measure 117 is the first step on the path to a **political and economic renaissance** that will reduce the corruption that now drags down the Oregon economy. The improved economy will benefit everyone, including Republicans, Democrats, third-party voters, and non-affiliated voters.

Marking a ranked choice ballot is **simple**. How election officials can, if needed, hand-count ranked choice ballots is not as easy for every voter to understand.

Lots of **out-of-state money** is flooding into Oregon to fund propaganda that confuses voters about vote-counting details. The money is coming from people who **fear losing their money-based control of Congress**. They want to stop ranked choice voting from spreading to yet more states, the way women's suffrage spread from a few states to become the 19-th Amendment.

To help you and other voters better understand ranked choice voting, I wrote a book titled ***The Goat Spitting Secret****: This Comedy Unmasks Why Congress Is Dysfunctionally Nutty*. It also explains why fairer elections will yield widespread economic prosperity. A free edition of this book is at: VoteFair[dot]org/gss

Three decades ago, while writing ***The Creative Problem Solver's Toolbox***, I realized that a well-designed election system would solve most of the world's biggest problems. Measure 117 is exceptionally well-designed within the limits of already certified election software.

When you mark **YES** to approve Measure 117 you will be putting Oregon, and eventually Congress, on the path to solving the growing problems we now face.

Richard Fobes
Portland, Oregon, formerly Corvallis
Author of ***The Creative Problem Solver's Toolbox***
VoteFair.org

(This information furnished by Richard Fobes, VoteFair.org.)

Argument in Favor

THE ACLU OF OREGON APPROVES MEASURE 117 TO SAFEGUARD OUR DEMOCRACY

Oregon has a rich history of being a leader in elections, democracy, and civil liberties.

Examples of our state's proactive leadership in election reform include:

- **Establishing direct democracy via ballot measures**, in which Oregonians have a tool to get on the ballot the issues that everyday people care about.
- **Automatic voter registration**, in which Oregonians don't have to jump through multiple hoops to get registered to vote.
- **Statewide mail-in voting**, in which Oregonians can be assured that they don't have to wait for *hours* in long poll lines.

This November, we have an opportunity to continue our state's history of democratic innovations — and help make Oregon strong and solutions oriented — by voting **Yes on Measure 117**.

Increasingly, elections across the country are divisive and chaotic, and extremist politicians are pushing for unfair, inhumane, and, frankly, strange government actions that endanger our basic freedoms and rights. Voting **Yes on Measure 117** will give power back to the people and bring more fairness and cooperation to our elections and democracy. That's because ranked choice voting allows us to vote for leaders who are accountable to our communities and real solutions, not special interests and false promises.

Voting **Yes on Measure 117** gives everyday Oregonians the power to vote for candidates who represent their values and communities without wasting their vote.

The ACLU of Oregon supports Yes on Measure 117 so that our state can better fulfill the promise of a democracy that is of, by, and for the people.

(This information furnished by Sandy S Chung, ACLU of Oregon, Inc..)

Argument in Favor

Measure 117 will strengthen our democracy to protect Oregon's environment!

Since 1892, the Sierra Club has worked to explore, enjoy, and protect the planet. Oregonians can already feel the devastating impacts of climate change, so we need to strengthen our democracy in order to address environmental challenges. Ranked choice voting allows voters to rank candidates in our preferred order. **Measure 117 means we**

can vote for the candidates we trust to uphold our values of climate action and environmental justice.

Right now, voters feel pressured to pick the candidate who has the most realistic chance of winning, even if other candidates have better environmental policy stances. Suppose there is a third-party candidate who prioritizes climate action and environmental justice, but as the election approaches, they just do not seem likely to win.

In the current system, voters would be faced with a tough call:

- Either, vote for the candidate they want most, even though that candidate will likely lose and their vote will have been for nothing.

OR:

- Vote for one of the candidates that is in the lead, even though they are not as committed to addressing important issues, just so that their vote counts.

Our current system is a zero sum game. But it doesn't have to be that way.

With ranked choice voting, you can vote for the candidate who puts YOUR values FIRST, because you're no longer limited to just one option. This means being able to cast your vote for the candidate invested in protecting clean water, air, wildlife, natural habitat, public lands, and climate action. **Because the thing is, even if your favorite candidate doesn't earn enough votes to win, your ballot will** STILL COUNT **for the candidate you select as your next choice.**

As one of the largest grassroots movements for protecting our environment for more than 130 years, we urge Oregonians to say YES to Measure 117.

-Sierra Club Oregon Chapter

(This information furnished by Damon C Motz-Storey, Director, Oregon Sierra Club PAC.)

Argument in Favor

Oregon has long been a pioneer in election reform. Our state led the way in implementing vote-by-mail and automatic voter registration to ensure as many Oregonians as possible could participate in the democratic process.

Now, it is time to give people better *reasons* to vote.

The increasing power of lobbyists and special interests in our state can be disheartening, but Oregon can **continue our proud tradition of strengthening our elections** by passing Measure 117. **It will improve our elections and make our elected leaders more accountable to real, everyday Oregonians.** Here's why you should vote YES:

1. **Vote for who you like:** Right now, elections can feel like choosing between the "lesser of two evils," forcing us to pick between the same types of candidates every year for fear of "wasting our vote" on a candidate that isn't likely to win. Ranked choice voting will allow you to vote your conscience without the need for compromising your beliefs or worrying if your favorite candidate will win. This freedom will force our leaders to work to win the support of all voters.
2. **True majority support:** Ranked choice voting ensures winning candidates have majority support, unlike now where we see candidates sometimes win with just 20 or 30%. This means politicians must appeal to a broader base of constituents instead of pandering to political extremes to get into office.
3. **Weakens special interest control:** Ranked choice voting makes it harder for candidates backed by narrow special interests to succeed because it requires broad support to win. It lifts up the voices of everyday Oregonians and encourages voters to care more. More of us paying attention means it's harder for special interests to manipulate our elections.

Measure 117 is our next step toward improving our democracy and making our elections work for all Oregonians. Support Measure 117 this November to make our government accountable and representative!

(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Measure 117 gives us better reasons to vote.)

Argument in Favor

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~ HOUSING ADVOCATES SUPPORT MEASURE 117 ~

Measure 117 will help give Oregon voters the power to vote for better candidates who will make addressing the housing crisis in Oregon a priority.

A simple change with a positive impact on politics and policy.

We encourage you to vote yes on Measure 117 because a voting system that gives voters more voice will lead to a more effective government – one that delivers the services our communities need. Right now, candidates that win big races (statewide races and federal races, that is) almost always have special interest backing – on both sides. When we empower voters to vote for who they want without the fear of throwing away their vote, we take power away from those special interests. That means that our elected officials can spend more time fulfilling their promises and less time pleasing the corporate interests that wrote them a check. **It's time to increase accountability in politics.**

What does Measure 117 have to do with housing advocacy?

More accountability and better representation.

To address the severe housing crisis in our state, voters need better options every time they go to fill out their ballot. And, we need candidates who will make an effort to hear directly from the people impacted most by this issue, among other critical issues.

We can only make real progress on issues like affordable housing and homelessness if candidates are held accountable to the people who elected them. Measure 117 will give us the power to vote for candidates who are committed to working across the aisle to get things done for Oregon. It's not rocket science – when the candidates we elect reflect our communities, they can better advocate for the issues that our communities are experiencing.

SIGNED,

Community Alliance of Tenants

Southern Oregon Housing for All

Family Forward Oregon

Urban League of Portland

Springfield Eugene Tenant Association

Hacienda Community Development Corporation

Portland: Neighbors Welcome

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(This information furnished by Michael Alfoni, Yes on 117.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayers Association of Oregon's

6 reasons to vote NO on Measure 117.

#1. Ranked Choice Voting suppresses the vote by 3% to 5%.

Voter turnout decreased by an average of 3% to 5% in cities where Ranked Choice Voting was used, according to San Francisco State University research.

#2. With Ranked Choice Voting, every ballot DOES NOT count.

One of the greatest problems with RCV is "ballot exhaustion"—when a ballot is cast but does not count toward the end election result. This occurs when a voter overvotes, undervotes, or only ranks candidates no longer in contention. Ballot exhaustion leaves voters and voices uncounted—ballots are literally thrown in the trash because the RCV voting process renders their votes meaningless.

#3. Ranked Choice Voting is confusing and inaccurate.

Maine's rank voting scheme was so confusing that it took a 19-page instruction manual. A data entry error went undetected in a California Ranked Choice election, and the wrong winner was certified.

#4. State lawmakers exempted themselves.

Oregon Legislators who are making you vote on Measure 117 won't face a Ranked Choice election themselves. Why don't they want the rules to apply to them? As written, Ranked Choice Voting would only apply to federal elections (President, Congress) and statewide offices (Governor, Attorney General, etc.).

#5. Ranked Choice Voting costs you more.

It costs more time and money to process multi-layered ballots. New York spent $15 million on a "voting education campaign," to deal with confusion brought on by Ranked Choice Voting.

#6. Rank Choice Voting delays election results.

Alaska does not even begin counting Ranked Choice ballots until 15 days after Election Day.

Special election equipment is required to scan ballots and tabulate votes in ranked elections. Some counties will need to retrain staff and print longer ballots that use more paper.

Follow us on our daily political website at OregonWatchdog.com.

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years.

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

Confusing & Convoluted

Oregon's mail-in elections already lack credibility. Some counties receive more ballots than they have voters. Poll watchers aren't given anything significant to watch. And the many questions of ballot custody during weeks of collection and storage go unanswered.

So, to this mixed up system, Measure 117 would add ***Ranked Choice Voting?*** It's a bit like figuring the odds in a horse race. Those doing the count keep crunching the numbers until they come up with a winner, leaving the rest of us confused and very possibly disappointed.

It tilts the odds to favor the party in power and opens new paths for cheaters, to the detriment of everyone else. States that already have it not only see their voter turnouts diminish but the number of discarded votes sometimes surpasses those actually counted.

Suddenly the election process is complicated, voters have trouble figuring it out, and millions of dollars need to be spent on "education".

Why not just keep ranked choice out of our fair state?

-Gary A Hughes-

(This information furnished by Gary A Hughes.)

Argument in Opposition

VOTE NO ON M117

NO RANKED CHOICE VOTING IN OREGON

In states that have already implemented RCV, the voters have not been happy with it. 6 states have already repealed it. **Alaska,** after the lowest voter turnout, and a 328% increase in cost, **is in the process of repealing. LET'S NOT REPEAT THEIR MISTAKE!**

VOTE NO ON M117

RCV is confusing. To help voters, the state of Maine published a 19 page instruction manual. The ballot is not counted if not done accurately. **Voting should not be this complicated.**

Let's keep the simple standard of ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE.

VOTE NO ON M117

RCV disenfranchises voters. Voters must rank ALL candidates. This means that even if there are candidates that you know nothing about, or you would never want to vote for, **you must give them a ranking.** Then, after several rounds of tabulating, in the RCV process, your lower ranking candidate often ends up being the winner.

VOTE NO ON M117

RCV is expensive. To implement Rank Choice Voting, the state will need to purchase and maintain even more machines and software. Nobody is telling us how much it will cost, but it will be in the **$$$ MILLIONS OF YOUR TAX DOLLARS. Our state is already spending too much of our money.**

VOTE NO ON M117

RCV is time consuming. Oregon elections already take weeks to count. With RCV, the ballots have to be counted multiple times. Let's not add any more time to our election process.

RCV for statewide elections will be **counted at the state leve**l, not at the county level as it is done currently. **Absolute power corrupts absolutely.** Do we need to know more? We need to maintain local control.

VOTE NOT ON M117

Find out more:

https://www.stoprcv.com

http://alaskapolicyforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2020-10-APF-Ranked-Choice-Voting-Report.pdf

Easy to understand video:

https://www.facebook.com/share/v/4TYgd93nKSJo55C1/?mibextid=oFDknk

This is a non-partisan issue, and I am a concerned citizen. Not paid.

Karen Schmidlin in Banks, OR.

JOIN ME IN VOTING NO ON M117

(This information furnished by Karen G Schmidlin, Banks, Oregon private concerned citizen of Washington County.)

Argument in Opposition

"What makes an election system democratic is that people understand what their vote means, how their vote will be counted, how their vote will contribute to the result.And in ranked-choice voting, you see very clearly that's not the

case."Trent England, Executive Director of Save Our States as quoted by Ray Carter in EXPERTS WARN AGAINST RANKED-CHOICE VOTING in OCPAthink.org

- Voters from every political party should oppose RCV as an imprudent election "reform." It confuses voters, unnecessarily complicates the election process and results in marginal candidates winning elections.
- Voters deserve elections that are simple to understand and easy to tabulate correctly.
- **One Person, One Vote** is fair and transparent. Due to multiple rounds of complex counting with RCV, mistakes are difficult to track.
- RCV increases the chance of voters making mistakes. If their ballot has two candidates accidently given the same rank or a rank is skipped, their ballot would be discounted in subsequent rounds, a recognized problem within ballot exhaustion.
- With RCV the final winner is often not the choice of a majority of voters who participated. Instead, it could be the second or third choice of only the voters whose ballots remained in the tabulation until the last count.
- Ranking multiple candidates can be too complicated for new voters, elderly and the disabled. Confusion leads to lower voter participation.
- A WARNING to ALL Voters

This ballot measure will change our system from two elections, primary and general, to a single election for one statewide office.Then the legislature could change all statewide elections to this method without another vote. This keeps each political party from combining their efforts all v

- Ten states have banned RCV. Many local races have tried RCV and failed. Let's learn from their mistakes.

(This information furnished by Tammi Carpenter, Clackamas County Republican Party.)

Argument in Opposition

MEASURE ARGUMENT

2024 GENERAL ELECTION

MEASURE 117 RANKED CHOICE VOTING , ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

The Columbia County Republicans oppose Measure 117 establishing ranked choice voting in Oregon and urges a NO vote. This confusing scheme of voting will disenfranchise voters, cause serious delays in obtaining elections results and is rife with opportunity for mistakes.

Voting Should Always be Simple

Voting should be SIMPLE, voters cast a ballot for their preferred candidate, plain and SIMPLE. There are no second places, or third places. The candidate with the most votes wins, period. Where elections require over 50% of the votes for a candidate to win, there is a runoff.....SIMPLE. disenfranchised voters tend to not vote.

Voting Should NOT be Confusing and Should be Accurate

Ranked choice voting convolutes this process, is confusing to voters and the various counting schemes are so complicated, mistakes can easily be made. This measure would result in some elections to be ranked and others to not be ON THE SAME BALLOT. This is inherently confusing and may cause voters to fill out their ballot incorrectly and have their vote not count at all. The complex mechanics of ranked choice voting are easily misunderstood by both those counting and those whose votes are being counted. Confused or disenfranchised voters tend to not vote at all. There is nothing democratic about it.

Voting Results Should be Clear and Tallied Quickly and Accurately

Ranked choice voting would result in ballots being counted multiple times. Common sense dictates that ranked choice voting by its very nature produces unclear results that may not be ultimately known for some time.

People want their vote counted, plain and simple. Lets keep it that way.

Please VOTE NO on Measure 117 establishing ranked choice voting.

(This information furnished by Douglas Walker, Columbia County Republicans.)

Argument in Opposition

I am opposed to Ranked Choice Voting because I think it gives the organizations that should not be influencing our elections more power and control that only the voters should have; as our State and Federal Constitutions both describe. If we continue to allow these organizations influence over our elections, then we will be powerless and that much closer to our local, state and federal elections being irrelevant. Our state and country will become Marxist or communist. Future generations deserve to be able to have their votes count and be able to be free citizens as our Creator intended.

Join me in voting NO on Ranked Choice Voting.

(This information furnished by Konrad P Isaak.)

Argument in Opposition

Rank Choice Voting: Complicated, Expensive, Producing NO Verifiable Election Results

1. Rank Choice Voting is both confusing and complicated.

The complicated Rank Choice Voting requirements will end up both confusingand frustrating voters because the Rank Choice Voting method of tallying ballots is so convoluted. The voters want to make their choices and not be forced into ranking or voting for ALL candidates, including the people they do NOT want to vote for.

2. Rank Choice Voting will be a HUGE COST to Oregon taxpayers and the State of Oregon. The expense of Rank Choice Voting will not even be known until almost a year after it is approved. The state cannot or refuses to give us any figures on:

- The costs of training and hiring additional staff
- Voter education,
- New voting equipment
- New software
- Other unforeseen expenses

Shouldn't we know how many tens or hundreds of millions of dollars Rank Choice Voting is going to cost Oregon before we implement it?

3. There is no transparency in the Rank Choice Voting process because it uses machines and algorithms to tally the votes. It will be difficult, or impossible to audit, and our elections results will take more time, with up to a month or more to tally votes. Rank Choice Voting is not a transparent, open election procedure ensuring election integrity.

4. France, with about 4 million ballots, can hand count their votes in one day, and produce verifiable results by that evening, Oregon can as well!

- Hand counting will eliminate multiple handling of ballots.
- Hand Counting can and will produce auditable results. If there's a voting challenge, the election can be investigated and certified.
- With hand counting there will be local control, not some remote unverifiable machine that can be hacked and produce highly suspect election results at the state level.
- Elections must remain local and transparent.

Protect your voice and your vote. Vote NO on this Rank Choice Vote scam

(This information furnished by John F Woods.)

Argument in Opposition

Vote NO on Measure 117

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is not right for Oregon. RCV disenfranchises voters through a complicated and confusing process that eliminates the principle of one person one vote. Vote No on Measure 117

"As an immigrant and first generation Korean American, Rank Choice Voting in all forms, hurts minorities. It's confusing at its core, especially for citizens that are still trying to figure out how voting in America works."
"As an African American woman, I'm proud that America has a history of expanding voting rights, fulfilling the promise of representative government. I agree with prominent minority leaders when they say Ranked Choice Voting is not beneficial to minorities. It's voter suppression. A yes vote on Rank choice voting would be a step in the wrong direction."

"I strongly oppose Rank Choice Voting. Not only will it disenfranchise entire voting groups, impacting rural and urban communities, young voters, persons of color, disabled individuals and many others, it will also have the unfortunate consequence of consolidating power over our elections and place it into the hands of a very small group; further restricting accessibility to our local elections processes. I urge you: protect every Oregonian and our right to fair and simple elections by voting NO."

"As former and present minority leaders in Salem, we stand in opposition to Ranked Choice Voting. It's confusing, expensive, consolidates power and disenfranchises voters. It's so bad that legislators forced this on other candidate races, but not their own. It's not the simple fix they're selling."
House Republican Leaders
Senate Republican Leaders
Oregon Republican Party

(This information furnished by Brian L Bishop, Treasurer, Oregon Republican Party.)

Argument in Opposition

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is the best RIGGED Election Method. It forces you to vote for candidates you DO NOT want, then gives their votes to defeat your first choice. The best part is the loser always wins. Other cities and states have gone down this rabbit hole only to be lucky enough to reverse course and get out of it. Since April 2024 six states have eliminated RCV, but Oregon wants to try this failed election method. Because it **ACTUALLY DISENFRANCHISES VOTERS AND IS UNDEMOCRATIC!**

The Secretary of State (SOS) will not tell you **how many hundreds of millions of dollars it will cost**. SOS knows they need to hire many more employees, write expensive software to figure out the complex counting method, buy MORE new hardware machines and throw away existing expensive counting machines.

ALL ELECTIONS will be **taken away from local control**. Tallying of votes is taken away from local County Clerks and, all election power will be centralized and given entirely to one person, the SOS, to tally and consolidate. This centralizing of power is like most communist systems.

The SOS gets to write the rules, but you cannot see the rules. You have to vote RCV in to see how the rules are made up. They will not tell you how it works, just kind of how it is supposed to maybe work.

All Candidates will become non-partisan as "no information about the candidate, including any title or designation, other than candidate's name may appear on the ballot." Political Parties will become non-existent like a true communist system. You will Ranked Choice Vote separately for President and Vice President, as "offices of **President and Vice President** of the United States shall be **arranged in Groups**", with no identity as to political party affiliation. Only "candidate's name may appear on the ballot", Presidents will not be able to choose running mates.

Friends of Oregon,

VOTE "NO" on Ranked Choice Voting!

(This information furnished by Todd A Morrill.)

Argument in Opposition

Republicans in Oregon Urge a NO VOTE on Measure 117 Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)

1. RCV erodes our current political party system. Candidates will in effect become non-partisan; "no information about the candidate, including title or designation, other than candidate's name may appear on the ballot."
2. RCV lays the foundation for ballots to NOT be counted. RCV requires every candidate to be ranked. If a voter fails to rank a candidate the entire ballot is discarded.
3. Recognizing the serious problems of RCV, six states have RCV. RCV erodes our democratic method of voting. Only Alaska and Maine currently use RCV. Alaska is in the process of repealing RCV.
4. RCV will be centrally controlled by the Secretary of State, not local county elections offices. The use of machine-based algorithms for vote counting raises concerns about auditability and therefore election integrity.
5. RCV does not simplify elections. With multiple candidates having to be ranked, RCV causes more difficulty and confusion for the voter. RCV requires additional counting and redistributing of votes. Potentially, this can significantly delay election results, cause voter frustration leading to apathy and mistrust.
6. RCV takes away the current *Constitutional* established election system of one-vote for one person. In fact, under RCV the winner can be someone who was not the first choice of a majority of voters. RCV requires that the last place candidate votes would be moved to the next ranked choice candidate, potentially moving a lower place candidate higher than voters ranked them.
7. RCV is very costly and requires all voters to be educated. Implementing this system can cost Oregon millions of dollars. Alaska spent over 11 million dollars to implement RCV.

(This information furnished by Suni B Danforth, Umatilla County Republicans.)

Argument in Opposition

VOTE NO ON RCV

"You will not believe what 'reformers' have devised to tinker with and manipulate our elections. It is called ranked choice voting (or 'instant runoff voting')—but it is really a scheme to disconnect elections from issues and allow candidates with marginal support from voters to win elections. In the end, it is all about political power, not about what is best for the American people and for preserving our great republic. So-called reformers want to change process rules so they can manipulate election outcomes to obtain power" (Summary, "Ranked Choice Voting Is a Bad Choice," https://www.heritage.org/election-integrity/report/ranked-choice-voting-bad-choice).

And that's what Oregon's HB 2004 Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) bill is all about.

- **Clever leaders of a voting block can manipulate elections to get their candidates elected, even if they are not popular.** Ask the people in Burlington, Vermont. "There, conservatives ranked their favorite candidate first and it got them their least favorite candidate as the winner. Had these conservative voters instead tactically placed their favorite candidate as second, then they would have gotten a much better outcome. **Burlington voters have since chosen to repeal RCV"** (https://electionscience.org/uncategorized/runoff-election-the-limits-of-ranked-choice-voting/).
- **RCV is extremely confusing to most voters and, thus, will further erode voter confidence and participation**.
- **RCV centralizes elections,** giving more power to the Secretary of State to control the elections and less power to the people at the local level to observe and oversee elections.
- **RCV will increase the cost of our elections** as funds will be needed for "staff training, purchasing or updating new equipment, voter education, purchasing or updating new software, and hiring additional staff" (HB 2004, Section, 16 (b), (A), (B), (C), (D), (E).

Elections don't have to be complex, confusing, or costly.

Why would Oregonians want to vote for something that other jurisdictions who've tried it are now rejecting?

PLEASE JOIN ME IN VOTING NO for Ranked Choice Voting.

Victoria Kingsbury, (projected) Nominee for State Representative

Beaverton area (HD 27)

Victoria4thePeople@gmail.com

(This information furnished by Victoria Kingsbury.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges NO on Measure 117

Rank choice voting is a giant vote-trashing machine

- Maine tossed out 8,000 votes (2018)
- New York tossed out 140,000 votes (2021)
- Alaska tossed out 15,000 votes (2022)

Under the rank voting scheme, if you choose to vote only for your favorite candidate or fail to list enough rankings, your vote will be thrown out in second-round vote calculations.

This is so common in ranked voting that in the 2022 New York City Mayor primary election 140,000 votes were tossed out, representing 15% of the total votes cast. That means nearly **1 in 6 voters' ballots were thrown out**.

Rank voting is a giant mess that punishes voters. It disenfranchises, disqualifies, and marginalizes everyday people by the thousands. And it costs more than a simple regular election.

NO on Measure 117

NO to disqualifying thousands of voters!

Visit us on our daily political news website
OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

We all learned how to vote in grade school. Four kids ran for a position; their classmates voted; the kid with the most votes (**simple majority**) won. RCV **requires** the "**winner**" to have an "**absolute majority**" – at least 50% of the vote after **multiple rounds of votes**. **WHY? Will this gain us better leaders with better policies? NO**.

RCV will:

- **Force you to select candidates you don't support**. If you select only one candidate, your ballot will be discarded ("exhausted") unless your candidate wins on the first round of counting.
- Require **multiple rounds of counting** until someone finally "**wins**" by being "pushed across the finish line" with an absolute majority. Usually, **the initial winner loses** and a **loser "wins".**
- **Destroy the "one person, one vote"** principle by counting multiple votes from some individuals and only one from others – **votes will not carry the same weight and voters will not have equal representation or voice**.
- Further **erode election transparency and make it impossible to audit** as it is implemented by computers and **software** which are **proprietary.**
- Overly complicate voting and **disenfranchise the elderly, minority communities, and many others**. Other jurisdictions that tried RCV experienced a **drop in voter turnout** and **subsequently repealed RCV** e.g. Pierce County, WA, Aspen, CO. **Ten states have banned it altogether.**
- Cost millions of dollars to implement, **as yet undetermined**. **We have to pass it to find out how much it will cost**. In Alaska, RCV **increases the cost** of each election by an **average of $1.6M**.
- **Surrender our elections to the Secretary of State** who will have the ability to **determine the number of candidates/write-in candidates who can run** and to **tally votes**.

Former **California Governor Jerry Brown** said: "In a time when we want to encourage voter participation, we need to **keep voting simple**. **Ranked choice voting** is overly **complicated and confusing**. I believe it **deprives voters of genuinely informed choice**."

Vote NO!

(This information furnished by Mary Chalkiopoulos.)

Argument in Opposition

I am opposed to Ranked Choice Voting because:

1. Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) ends the "One person, one vote" election. It can be confusing when voters must rank multiple candidates instead of just choosing the one they want. If they don't fill out their ballot correctly their ballot can be thrown out. Some people's votes are used multiple times because of the process used to tally votes.

The following **example** assumes there are 4 candidates:

Voters rank all the candidates listed for an office according to their preference: 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice, 4th choice.

If no one receives more than 50% in **ROUND 1**, the candidate receiving the least votes, in this case choice #4, is defeated. Their votes go to the next highest-ranked candidate. 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice continue on and the 4th choice votes go to the 3rd place candidate, without voter permission.

(See SECTION 4 (B) (ii) of HB 2004.)

The candidate who originally received the most votes is defeated by a candidate who originally received fewer votes. Each round of tallying gives votes of defeated candidates to the next-highest candidate. **Example**: In **ROUND 2** –1st choice and 2nd choice continue on with 3rd choice being defeated. This gives #3 candidate votes and the accumulated #4 candidate votes all to the #2 candidate. The next to last candidate has collected the votes of all the defeated candidates, without having permission of the voters.

2. RCV eliminates parties and primary elections. All candidates are listed according to the office they are running for. The ballot only lists the candidates' names, with no other information included.

3. Since parties are not involved in elections, candidates must raise money from other sources. Only wealthy candidates can seek office, or candidates will seek big businesses, union support, or other sources of funding. Donors will have undue influence on winners, eliminating the concerns of grassroots constituents.

Vote NO on RCV!

(This information furnished by Elaine M Woods.)

Argument in Opposition

What are our Oregon legislators thinking? When it comes to Elections, so many Oregonians are either apathetic or angry because, ever since mail-in-ballots, they think that our election system is rigged.

So now, instead of responding to legitimate election concerns and irregularities, our state leaders have decided to force us at the eleventh hour to adopt the even more suspicious, the even more expensive, the even more untested, the even more unreliable, the even more open-to-fraud Ranked Choice Voting.

Ranked Choice Voting, wherein a complex algorithm – yet to be decided – is going to manipulate your vote in such a way that the person who gets the most votes will never be declared the winner.

The "winner," instead, will probably be the person who was congenial enough, fence-sitter enough, to have gotten the second number or third number of votes. That person stands for nothing and will accomplish nothing except what the elites behind the scene allow him or her to do.

If there is a slate of five candidates, you must rank them 1 to 5. If you want to only vote for one of the candidates and, consequently, not rank the other four, your ballot will be thrown out.

If you happen to have ranked the candidates 1 to 5 and your #1 person ended up #5, your candidate will be dropped and your vote will be assigned to another candidate and, If necessary, reassigned again.

Ranked Choice Voting will be more expensive and the final tallies are sure to cause controversy as they have in Alaska and Missouri. How the algorithm will work is unclear and there will be no back-up verification and no election transparency. Each individual vote is too precious to be lost by this RCV experiment.

If Oregon really wants to be first in the nation, how about if Oregon declares Election Day as a holiday and insists on voter identification, paper ballots, hands-on-counting and election results within 24 hours.

(This information furnished by Lynn K Harris.)

Argument in Opposition

I stand against Ranked Choice Voting (RCV).

In this system, voters must rank all candidates in order of preference, unlike our current method where voters select their single choice. The final winner is then decided by computer software, potentially AI, which raises concerns about transparency and trust. Additionally, votes can be discarded if the entire list of candidates isn't ranked, diminishing the value of individual votes.

America has traditionally relied on the straightforward method of one-person-one-vote, a fundamental part of our rights and responsibilities. RCV complicates this process, leaving voters confused about why their preferred candidates aren't winning. This complexity could make it easier to manipulate election outcomes.

Historically, one-person-one-vote has been a simple and effective system. For instance, even pirates had a one-vote-per-man rule due to its clarity and fairness. Any deviation from this, like RCV, risks reducing the equality of our votes.

The Founding Fathers warned against schemes that corrupt power and money flow, and RCV seems to be such a scheme.

Moreover, RCV relies on proprietary software and closed-door counting processes, controlled by the Secretary of State and opaque machines. This lack of transparency fosters distrust in the voting system. As Joseph Stalin famously said, "It's not who votes that counts, it's who counts the votes." RCV concentrates vote counting power in a way that will undermine our democratic process.

In summary, Ranked Choice Voting complicates the electoral process, threatens the equality of our votes, and lacks transparency, all of which undermine the trust and integrity of our elections.

Bob Niemeyer

(This information furnished by Robert H Niemeyer, III.)

Argument in Opposition

I am writing to fellow Oregonians as a concerned citizen in opposition to Measure 117 (RCV). Oregon's eagerness for trying new ideas and wanting to make sure people don't fall by the wayside is often a strength. However, our recent misadventure with Measure 110, the legalization of hard drugs, has demonstrated that not all ideas are worth pursuing. In other States where RCV has been tried, it has only increased the costs of elections and complicated the voting process.

Some see RCV as the way to reduce divisiveness in politics. No matter what side of a particular issue you're on, it's easy to see that many people are simply tired of the political rancor and instead want government to focus on delivering basic services through practical solutions. The truth is the only real way to reduce the political division and governmental dysfunction is for all of us to communicate with each other to find solutions.

We can all point to ways that different parts of Oregon feel disconnected from or frustrated with those in other parts of the state. In order to find solutions that all sides approve of, we can and must talk to, and respect each other. Even if, and especially when, we disagree. But we do not need a whole new way of voting that will throw our election system into chaos attempting to bridge the divides.

RCV will result in the government and all Oregonians rushing to navigate the unforeseen complexities of the jurisdictional and logistical aspects of such a sweeping change. A lot of people either won't understand how it works or won't trust it, regardless of how much information is provided. RCV will only add more complications to the long list of political challenges facing Oregon.

Instead of making massive changes to our political system, which will only distract us from those political challenges, let's get back to working things out together, as Oregonians.

Vote No on Measure 117

(This information furnished by Jonathan Wright.)

Argument in Opposition

Rank Choice Voting(RCV) 117 -Vote No

What is RCV? RCV is a change in the voting process. If there are more than two candidates running for an elected position then you are mandated to rank them in preference- 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice, etc. When the candidate gets over 50% of the vote, that person is elected.

This ballot measure will be on the ballot in November. It was initiated by the legislature and will be on the November ballot. If passed this will be our new voting procedure.

Who uses RCV? Presently Maine and Alaska are the only states using it. There are cities and counties that have implemented this also.

Why change to RCV?- Good question? It has been initiated by left leaning legislatures to eliminate spoiler candidates and move those votes from the last place candidates to those who finished higher. This process continues until one font candidate gets over 50% of the vote.

Does your vote count with RCV - Possibly No! If you don't rank the choices, your vote can be exahusted. Your vote may go to a candidate you do not support! The votes are recalculated by this process until one candidate gets over 50% of the vote.

Does RCV speed up tabulation? - No! It may take weeks to tabulate a winner.

Can RCV change the initial outcome of a race? Yes, 2nd and 3rd place finishers in the first counting have gone on to win the election in Alaska and Maine.

What is the cost to change to RCV? - Most present voting machines will not be able to tabulate the new system, therefore the upfront cost will be expensive.

Does RCV erode the confidence in the voting process? - Yes. I may allow more options to manipulate or game the voting process. Florida, Tennessee, Idaho, Montana. and Wyoming has banned RCV statewide!

Vote No on Initiative 117!

Central Committee of the Morrow County Republican Party

(This information furnished by Clinton R Carlson, Chairman.)

Argument in Opposition

Ranked Choice Voting Will Cost Oregonians Millions

Why are we being asked to pay for a new voting system in Oregon? Is the current one broken? How much will it really cost to implement this new system? I discovered a mandated report to be made by the Oregon SOS and all the county clerks to identify how much it will cost. Section 16b reads as follows, ***Detailing, to the degree practicable, each expenditure, and the associated cost of each expenditure, that the secretary and county clerks have determined is necessary to make in order to successfully implement this 2023 Act by the operative date specified in section 18 of this 2023 Act, including but not limited to expenditures related to: staff training, purchasing or updating new equipment, voter education, purchasing or updating new software, and hiring additional staff.***

We do not really know how much this will cost Oregonians, but we can look to Alaska for some answers. Alaska passed RCV in 2020 and implemented it in the 2022 election. In 2020 it cost Alaskan taxpayers almost 4 million to conduct an election and 2 years later with RCV it cost 11 million to hold an election. Some figures state it will be well over 20 million in the 2024 election. Many in Alaska are calling for a ban on RCV now and to go back to the normal way of voting. 10 states have already taken that step to ban RCV. Cities like Burlington, Vermont, Ann Arbor, Michigan and Aspen, Colorado to name a few have all tried RCV but then banned it for use in elections.

Oregon voters are asked many questions in the name of progress. This is not progress but a hidden tax on our democratic process of voting. This will cost Oregon taxpayers millions of dollars, complicate a working voting system, and certainly discourage people from voting.

VOTE NO ON RANKED CHOICE VOTING

(This information furnished by Gabriel Buehler.)

Argument in Opposition

Vote NO on Ranked Choice Voting

With a heavy heart we recommend voting NO on Measure 117. Voting reform is desperately needed and **we support science-backed options** like STAR Voting, **but RCV has been systematically oversold** and it doesn't do what it sets out to do. Worse, as proposed, RCV has serious deal-breakers that set the voting rights and electoral reform movements back decades.

The organization representing Oregon's election officials urged the legislature to vote NO on the referral and warned:

"Elections should be accessible, simple, affordable, predictable, secure, auditable, and yield timely and accurate results. RCV does none of these things." - Brian Van Bergen, legislative testimony on behalf of Oregon Association of County Clerks, 3/16/23

RCV DEAL-BREAKERS:

1. **Disenfranchises voters:** Voter error rates under RCV are nearly 10 times higher, and voters who rank candidates equally if they don't have a preference can have their ballots voided. Low-income, senior, and minority voters are significantly more likely to accidentally void their ballots.
2. **Undermines election security:** RCV's complex tallying process requires centralizing all ballots statewide, which undermines Oregon's system of local tabulation and verification. Measure 117 removes key election integrity protections from Oregon law.
3. **Undermines voter equality:** RCV ignores relevant ballot data. Some voters will have their next choice counted if their favorite doesn't win; other voters won't. As seen in real-world elections this can lead to unfair, non-representative outcomes.

Despite the perception that RCV is an innovative new reform with "momentum," in truth, it's the opposite. RCV's long history has been marked by cycles of adoption, failure, and repeal for over a century. Study after study has highlighted serious issues that can and should be addressed.

We can do better!

Oregonians have the opportunity to lead the nation: Unlike RCV, modern voting reforms truly empower voters, treat all voters equally, and level the playing field. Adopting the outdated and broken system promoted in Measure 117 is a step in the wrong direction.

Learn more: www.equal.vote/rcv_or

(This information furnished by Deanna M Kallen, President, Equal Vote Coalition.)

Argument in Opposition

Dear Oregonians,

Measure 117: Rank Choice Voting (RCV) is a bad idea for Oregon

All elections will be taken away from local control (county) and be controlled by the Secretary of State

RCV is overly intricate and strips away a clear choice from voters

RCV forces you to rank all candidates even if you do not want to vote for them

Only machines can count the votes using algorithms NO TRANSPARENCY

Audits & Recounts of elections become impossible

RCV obscures the candidate's party affiliation

Ask yourself this, why change to RCV?

Is it cheaper? **NO**

This bill does not share how many tax dollars it will cost you for training, hiring additional, staff, voter education, new voting equipment, new software and other unexpected costs

Is it faster? **NO**

It is a long process to count RCV votes

Does it increase Voter turnout? **NO**

Too complicated

Join me and others to keep this **ILLUSION OF CHOICE** out of Oregon and vote **"NO"** on Rank Choice Voting!

(This information furnished by Jennifer Adishian.)

Argument in Opposition

There are a few obvious reasons that make rank choice voting a very bad idea. In short:

- It is a confusing system for many voters.
- It requires a computer to decide on the outcome, because the results are not simple.

We should not be running our elections this way. At a time when the country is very polarized and political campaigns can get very nasty, we do not need to introduce a new way of voting.

If you have followed the use of ranked choice voting in other states, you are aware of the controversy surrounding it. Certain political parties or candidates advocate for its use because they feel it will give them an advantage in the election. We do not need this debate inserted into our elections.

Let's stick with the simple election system that everyone knows. It is straightforward and works well. Some people worry about election security already. We do not need to further complicate this issue with a voting system that is harder to understand and that requires a computer analysis to declare the winner.

In our current system, candidates work hard to achieve the most votes. That is what should decide an election, not a computer trying to figure out voter preferences for second and third choice candidates in close elections.

Please Vote NO on measure 117.

Art Robinson, PhD
State Senator District 2

(This information furnished by Arthur Robinson.)

Argument in Opposition

RCV isn't new. **It has been tried, and repealed, in 85 other US jurisdictions**. Oregon, don't repeat their mistake.

"Elections should be accessible, simple, affordable, predictable, secure, auditable, and yield timely and accurate results. RCV does none of these things."

"The fact that tallying ballots must be [conducted] by a third party will create more compromise, reduce auditability, and make things more difficult and less transparent."

- Brian Van Bergen, Marion County Elections and Recording Manager, during HB2004 testimony representing the Oregon Association of County Clerks (OLIS, 3/16/2024)

Current Oregon law requires that "ballots shall be tallied and returned by precinct" and that "A person other than the county clerk, a member of a counting board or any other elections official designated by the county clerk may not tally ballots under this chapter." (ORS 254.485)

We do this for good reason – Oregonians value local control of elections. Measure 117 takes that local control away - the authority to tally votes is transferred to the Secretary of State. With Ranked Choice Voting, all RCV ballots must be in the same hands before full tallies can be performed, and that tally must occur simultaneously. (RCV Resource Center)

In Alaska and Maine, for example, RCV ballots are physically trucked or flown to a central location for tabulation. And whether Oregon physically transfers ballots or does it electronically using digital cast vote records, the control over counting ballots is taken away from local officials.

How will a county perform audits? How will a county know that their votes were correctly tallied? How do we retain a chain of custody over ballots? How do we prevent a single point of failure? These vital questions are not answered with Measure 117.

Measure 117 diminishes the integrity of Oregon elections by taking away local control. It introduces new points of failure, and complicates audits, by centralizing the vote tally and transferring more control to the state.

Vote NO on Measure 117.

(This information furnished by Edwin L Diehl, III.)

Argument in Opposition

As a concerned Oregon citizen, I present 8 key points refuting the argument for adopting Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) for Oregon elections:

1. **Complexity**: RCV requires voters to rank all candidates, which can be confusing and burdensome. This complexity may discourage voter participation, contradicting the democratic principles RCV aims to uphold.

2. **Unpredictable Outcomes**: In RCV, the candidate leading in the first round can lose in subsequent rounds as votes are redistributed. This can result in a winner who was not the majority's first choice, challenging the principle of majority rule.

3. **Lack of Tabulating Transparency**: The redistribution of votes in RCV can be difficult to follow and understand. This lack of transparency in the tabulation process can lead to mistrust in the system and the results it produces.

4. **Manipulating the Slate of Candidates**: Moneyed interests can easily and cheaply exploit the Ranked Choice Voting system by introducing additional candidates, This could lead to a greater number of invalidated ballots which diminishes the influence of each voter. Consequently, the election results may be distorted and may not genuinely reflect the public's true preference.

5. **Cost**: Implementing RCV requires significant resources for voter education, ballot design, and vote-counting infrastructure. These funds could be allocated to other pressing societal needs.

6. **Voter Disenfranchisement**: If voters do not rank all candidates, their ballots could be exhausted before the final round, effectively disenfranchising them from the final decision.

7. **Inefficiency**: The process of redistributing votes and recounting can be time-consuming, delaying the announcement of results and causing uncertainty.

8. **Voter Regret**: Districts who have tried RCV often regret the outcomes and find it costly, time consuming and nearly impossible to rescind.

In conclusion, while RCV promises benefits, these points highlight significant concerns. It's crucial to consider these factors in our pursuit of a fair, simple, and truly democratic voting system.

(This information furnished by Ross Winters.)

Argument in Opposition

Any attempt at changing the election process at any level of government should be a cause for concern. It is a common practice to want to change things when someone doesn't get their way when the results are counted. Oregon schools, as an example, are being reported nation-wide as willing to 'throw out the test' because a student failed it, rather than improve the teaching methods or provide tutoring for the failed student.

Changing the election process to Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) destroys the voter's choice by moving votes that were for a candidate that failed to achieve enough votes, over to another candidate without anyone's approval. A parallel example of this was the desire by the existing ruling Democratic Party to increase the number of judges in the U.S. Supreme Court. This had only one objective, and that was to have an opportunity to pack the court with more liberal judges than the conservative judges. This would then ensure that any case that came before the Supreme Court would most likely favor the Democratic Party.

The intention of the RCV being proposed is an alternative to our current procedure of candidate choice. Most voters favor a candidate by party affiliation and would likely only use random selection when there are multiple choices under the RCV method. This would totally undermine the election of the most qualified candidate by watering down the process. Under RCV the electoral method is weakened by grave manipulation to gain an unreasonable and unaacceptable advantage that serves a specific party rather than fair and equal opportunity desired by the voting public.

Please vote 'NO' along with informed citizens of Washington County.

Wayne S. Moses, Precinct 350

(This information furnished by Wayne Moses.)

Argument in Opposition

I am against Ranked Choice Voting!

VOTE NO ON RANKED CHOICE VOTING

Here is why!

RCV is Taxpayer funded, is full of flaws and is vulnerable to election fraud.

RCV is a man-made catastrophe!

Ranked Choice Voting has been banned by ten states and Alaska is currently working to revoke it.

1. **RCV is very complicated** by requiring the voter to choose and vote for all candidates in the order of voter preference. If the voter doesn't vote for all candidates, their ballot is trashed. This extreme confusion of RCV reduces voter participation.
2. **RCV is too expensive.** The estimated cost to implement RCV will not even be released to taxpayers until the year after it's approved. Oregon is withholding the estimated cost for **software, hardware, maintenance, staff, educating voters, etc.** The Secretary of State's Office will incur additional costs. **We Oregonians are already overtaxed far beyond our limit.**
3. **RCV is deceptive** and gives an illusion of voting choice but that is far from the truth. RCV is a proven failure and will violate our current American Freedom for one citizen-one vote!
4. **RCV is a manipulated Election Process.** The candidate with the most votes might actually lose. Even a correctly filled out ballot can be discarded if a ranked candidate is eliminated from contention. States and cities that have had RCV have found it to fail and therefore, working to revoke RCV.
5. **RCV Candidates will become non-partisan.** Information about the candidate is not provided, including any title designation, other than candidate's name, appearing on the ballot. Like a Communist System, Political Parties will become non-existent.
6. **RCV forces the use of voting machines** that have repeatedly proven to be hacked and use programed algorithms that force a determined outcome.
7. **RCV will remove our right** to conduct elections in our local counties and give our rights to the Secretary of State.

VOTE NO ON RANKED CHOICE VOTING

Janet Bailey, Delegate
Washington County

(This information furnished by Janet Bailey.)

Argument in Opposition

Why Oregonians are voting NO on Ranked Choice Voting (RCV):

The candidate with the most votes can lose. Candidates with the most votes often lose while those receiving as little as four percent of the vote win, diminishing voter confidence in elections.

You may end up without a vote. Exhausted ballots refer to ballots that do not count towards the final vote tally in RCV elections. Even correctly filled-out ballots can be discarded if the ranked candidates are eliminated from contention.

Voting results are delayed. Due to the complexity of the process, RCV often leads to delays in final election results.

RCV destroys transparency. RCV elections that require multiple rounds of tabulation rely on computers to adjust or discard ballots in each round. There is no way to quickly confirm the accuracy of the computer processes involved.

Elections should be handled locally. To implement RCV, counties will no longer be able to tally their own votes. ALL votes will need to be tallied by the State, removing control of elections from counties and local election workers.

RCV is expensive. It is hard to estimate the cost of implementing RCV in Oregon, but all 36 counties in Oregon would require new equipment and software as would the Secretary of State. In other states where RCV has been implemented, the actual cost of implementation was ten to twenty times higher than initial estimates.

Ranked Choice Voting is bad for Oregon. Elections should be local, transparent, and simple. RCV is massively complicated and manipulated by centralized computer systems behind closed doors. It discards some votes while doubling others and shuffling them around, and it is the opposite of transparent, free, and fair.

Vote **NO** on **Measure 117**

(This information furnished by Ian Watts, Oregon People's Vote.)

Argument in Opposition

—— Vote NO on Measure 117 ——

Measure 117 makes it HARDER to VOTE. First, it will take longer to fill out a ballot because every candidate in a race must be ranked — you cannot just pick your favorite candidate and move on. Second, because each candidate must be ranked, from most favorite to least favorite, many more mistakes can be made. An error in ranking, such as doubling a 2nd choice vote, can void your vote. Third, in order to properly rank candidates, it means you need to know more about each candidate, not just your favorite. This means more research and more time prior to voting.

Measure 117 makes it HARDER to COUNT. Imagine a race with 10 candidates. (Note: the Republican Gubernatorial Primary in 2022 had around 20 candidates). Unless a candidate wins a majority of 1st place votes, the new voting system requires dropping the least favorite candidate from the race and reassigning their votes to the remaining candidates. Then the votes must be recounted. This process is inherently complex and therefore must be done by computers.

Measure 117 makes it HARDER to VERIFY. Since hand counting is nearly impossible with races of more than a few candidates, the only feasible way to recount ballots is with the same computer ballots were counted with the first time. This takes away a second and independent way to verify that close races are counted correctly.

HARDER to VOTE
HARDER to COUNT
HARDER to VERIFY

—— Vote NO on Measure 117 ——

(This information furnished by Eric W Reschke, Werner For Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

Remember when you were young, and you played a game with your friends? Everyone knew the rules and with repetition there were no disputes, and the game was fun, timely, and all the plays were transparent. Then one player chose to make **changes** to the rules and make them more complicated, promising that it would be easy to learn and adapt to and it would make the game more exciting. Tried for a little while, the game lost its old simplicity and there were soon disputes about how to interpret the new rules and they **complicated the game** so much that it became **too complicated** to introduce any new people to the game at all?

The new election rules under **Measure 117** are just such rules **overly complicating** a very simple process.

Old style: voters registered to vote, showed up at community polling places, showed ID and signed in. They were given a ballot, filled it out, put it in a box and the ballots were counted and totaled the same day and results were published the following day. **Simple, direct, economical and efficient.**

Changes to the old-style format have proven so far to be **expensive, untrustworthy** and **inefficient**.

Measure 117 Why? What is the supposed need that it fills? What is wrong with the current system that needs to be fixed? What special interest benefits from these changes? Are there other ways to fix the perceived problem? Education? What additional burden does it put on the voter filling out the ballot? Will the outcome of elections be timelier? Does this help alleviate big party polarization?

The Measure 117 statement as presented is **a work in process** with several **dead ends** (to-be-determined only if passed).

Untested method. **No field tests** of any length.

No cost estimate from treasurer.

Likely increased cost to voters causing fixed-income taxpayers more grief!!!

Vote No on Measure 117$$$$

(This information furnished by Charles F Mengis.)

Argument in Opposition

What exactly is the reason we need to move away from the one-man-one-vote system that has served Americans for generations? Why exactly do we need a change? It seems like the answer may be that the powers that be simply want a way to manipulate election outcomes.

Ranked Choice Voting is not new. Over the decades researchers and statisticians have come up with dozens of intricate ways of tallying the vote count. And the current proponents have worked hard to develop ways to market Ranked Choice Voting to the electorate.

In Ranked Choice Voting systems, there are several algorithms that make adjustments to vote totals, and they are all complex and difficult for the voter to understand and to use. Without significant training, voters may find themselves unable to determine how to complete their ballots and the results may often lead to their ballots being rejected.

There will be increased cost for development and implementation of a new system. The Ranked Choice Voting system will require additional hardware, software and staff. The cost will be expensive but the exact cost will be unknown until the system in installed.

Finally, where Ranked Choice Voting has been tried problems have been revealed. In fact, two states, Alaska and Missouri are so dissatisfied with ranked choice voting that they are now trying to revoke it.

Let's keep Oregon ahead of the curve and vote NO on Ranked Choice Voting

(This information furnished by James R Harris.)

Argument in Opposition

Ranked Choice Voting should not be allowed because:

1. It is confusing for the voting public.
2. It is arguably unconstitutional.
3. It will cost millions of dollars to change the current voting system. The public will not know the cost until after it is put in place.
4. This can be easily manipulated to change the results of an election. It could be a creative way to cheat.
5. It will take a number of days to know the results of an election.
6. This will not help the election process be more transparent.

I encourage all voters to vote NO on Ranked Choice Voting!

(This information furnished by Dee Burkey.)

Argument in Opposition

Why Oregonians Should Vote No On Rank Choice Voting

RCV is Too Expensive

Estimated costs for Counties for the 1st year:

- Software $1,125,654
- Hardware $830.577
- Maintenance $334.156

Total Year 1 Cost for Counties $2,290.387

Average Cost per County: $65,440

Also, additional administrative costs for **each election** are estimated to be between $71,000--$1.5 million.

Does Not include any additional costs that the Oregon Secretary of State's office will incur.

** Information provided by a member of the Oregon County Clerk's Association*

This does not include the cost to educate the public about this new election system. Other states have education costs 328% higher than their estimates, in the millions of dollars.

This bill is a "Concept Bill." No cost limits--"Buy it before you try it." You have to pass the bill to know exactly how much it will cost each taxpayer--TRUST US!

The only group of elected officials Not being elected via RCV are those who initiated the bill—The Democratic Oregon Legislature--House and Senate Representatives. They will be elected in the tried-and-true fashion--One Choice, One Vote. Why would they exclude themselves? Good for Thee, But not for Me?

MEASURE 117 IS:

- **Bad** for your wallet—Too expensive
- **Bad** for your mind—Too confusing
- **Bad** for your county—Loss of local election control
- **Bad** for your State—Too much centralized government control
- **No** Transparency
- **No** Accountability
- **No** Auditability
- **No** Election Day, No Election Month, Longer Election Season

HO! HO! HO!

Vote No on 117

Submitted by Anna Munson, Former Candidate for Marion County Clerk

(This information furnished by Pat A Munson, Anna For Clerk.)

Argument in Opposition

WE, THE INFORMED VOTERS OF JOSEPHINE COUNTY, REACH OUT TO ALL OREGON CITIZENS TO VOTE NO ON RANKED-CHOICE VOTING, MEASURE 117!!

RCV is unnecessarily confusing for most voters - so much so that it requires a computer to determine the outcome. RCV creates a false majority, whereby many voters are disenfrnchised and creates a misleading representation of the level of the support a candidate receives. Party politics may encourage a crowded ticket on the opposing side in hopes of splittng the ticket, which boosts the scheming party's percentage. The time to certify elections will be increased. RCV is more costly, requiring education and changes of equipment. Worst of all, RCV requires algorithms to calculate the redistribution of votes.

Alaskan citizens voted for RCV, were discouraged by the results and are now attempting to remove RCV and go back to their prior system.

At a time when the country is very polarized, political campaigns are getting nasty and citizens are short on trust, we do not need to introduce a new and confusing way of voting, further undermining trust.

Decisions should be made based on the candidate who gets the most votes, not on a computer trying to calculate voter preferences for second and third choice candidates in close elections.

Please Vote NO on Measure 117.

(This information furnished by Donna L Nicely.)

Argument in Opposition

RCV is a bad experiment that has been found to be **incredibly costly to taxpayers**, **confusing for voters**, and **delays results** due to multiple rounds of tabulation. It's already challenging enough to do the research on all offices up for election in one given cycle and pick one preferred candidate for each office; now you will have to research all candidates and rank them in order of preference.

Measure 117 is an 11-page **convoluted**, **befuddling, word-salad** bill that details how RCV will be implemented in Oregon and demonstrates the **unnecessary complexity** of an RVC system. For example:

"(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section and except as otherwise expressly provided by law, when an election to an office is determined by ranked choice voting, and more than one person is to be elected to a single office, the people elected to the office shall be determined by a proportional methodology adopted by rule by the Secretary of State. Any rules adopted under this subsection shall provide that candidates are elected to office by: (a) Receiving more votes than a threshold determined by dividing the total votes counted for active candidates in the first round of tabulation by the sum of the number of people to be elected plus one, with all votes that are received by a candidate that are in excess of the minimum number of votes required to be elected to office being transferred to lower-ranked active candidates in the manner set forth in the proportional methodology adopted by the secretary under this subsection; or (b) If the number of active candidates is less than or equal to the number of seats remaining to be filled, by being one of the active candidates."

What a contortion! And this is just one paragraph. **The rest are just like it.**

Don't vote for this.

Our elections should be *simple to run*, *simple to participate in*, and *easy to understand by everyone*.

Vote NO!

(This information furnished by Jill S Brandt.)

Argument in Opposition

RCV is nothing but a devious plot to keep perpetual power in the hands of the current ruling party in Oregon. For all we hear in the monolithic media about "saving our Democracy", this legislative gimmick is the epitome of a subversion of our "Democracy". Would anyone be surprised that RCV is part of the Soros agenda? Don't believe me? Do some research.

The reason we are a Representative Republic and not a pure democracy, is that a pure democracy is a mob rule of the majority over the minority. This is exactly what the RCV legislation intends, a perpetual rule of the majority party over the minority parties not in power. This seems great if you belong to the party in power and not so great for the minorities who are not. But in reality it isn't great for anyone. With RCV, a vote for the candidate of your choice can actually be transferred to another candidate if your candidate doesn't get enough votes. This voting method should be an affront to ANY fair-minded American who is honest and concerned with fair, open, democratic representation for all Oregonians.

RCV is an obvious attempt to eliminate the choice of candidates by party and a way to disenfranchise a vote for ANYONE'S particular candidate. It is also obvious that those who scream the loudest about the "subversion of Democracy" are the ones actually perpetrating it. RCV is a perfect example of subverting Democracy.

As Oregon citizens, we need to concentrate on reforms that ACTUALLY engender confidence that our system is fair and secure, not on things like RCV that demoralize, confuse and generate frustration in our voting process.

(This information furnished by Harvard Isaak.)

Argument in Opposition

Ranked choice voting, touted as a solution to electoral problems, is nothing short of a dangerous experiment in democratic decision-making. This convoluted system purports to enhance voter choice and fairness, but in reality, it introduces a slew of complexities that undermine the integrity of elections and the clarity of democratic outcomes.

Firstly, ranked choice voting confuses voters. Instead of a straightforward vote for one candidate, voters are asked to rank candidates by preference. This unnecessarily complicates the voting process, potentially disenfranchising voters who are unfamiliar with the system or find it confusing.

Moreover, ranked choice voting does not guarantee a majority winner. In many cases, the winner can be someone who was not the first choice of the majority of voters, but rather the compromise candidate who accumulates enough second or third-place votes. This undermines the principle of majority rule and can lead to outcomes that do not reflect the true preferences of the electorate.

Ranked choice voting also opens the door to strategic voting and gaming the system. Voters may be incentivized to rank candidates not based on genuine preference but on tactical considerations to ensure a certain outcome, leading to manipulation and unpredictability in election results.

Furthermore, the implementation of ranked choice voting is costly and prone to errors. It requires new and often expensive voting equipment, extensive voter education campaigns, and can lead to longer wait times for election results due to the complexity of tabulation.

In conclusion, **ranked choice voting does not deliver on its promises of enhancing democracy**; instead, it complicates the voting process, undermines majority rule, and opens the

door to manipulation and errors. It is a misguided attempt at reform that threatens to erode trust in our electoral system rather than strengthen it.

For these reasons, I **urge** you to reconsider the adoption of ranked choice voting. States who have adopted it since rejected it. No one wins with ranked choice voting.

(This information furnished by Kurt Williams.)

Argument in Opposition

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is a **disastrous idea** for Oregon. Here are a few reasons why we must vote NO on RCV:

1. RCV is **confusing**. The complicated voting directions will end up costing voters their democratic voice because the RCV method is so flawed. The **biggest problem with RCV is that it FORCES you to rank ALL candidates,** including the people you do NOT want to vote for.

2. RCV will be a **HUGE COST** to taxpayers. The expense of this radical voting process will not even be known until almost a year after it is approved. The state isn't giving us any figures on what the costs of training, hiring additional staff, voter education, new voting equipment, new software, or other incidental expenses will be. Oregonians are already overtaxed. Shouldn't we know how many tens or hundreds of millions of dollars this voting style is going to cost us?

3. There is **no transparency** in the RCV voting process because it uses machines and algorithms to tally the votes. It will be difficult, or impossible to audit, causing our elections to take more time, not less.

4. Oregon and France are similar in number of voters. If France can hand count 3-4 million votes in one day, with results by that very evening, Oregon can as well! Since I have been a voter, elections have gone from one day, to *voting month*, and now, with this failed voting system, it will be *voting season*. RCV **will extend our elections** process to be even longer than they are currently.

5. RCV **will remove local control** from the county elections and centralize elections at the state level. Elections must remain local.

Join me and the concerned voters in precinct 355 in choosing to **protect our democracy by voting NO** on this subversive voting system.

(This information furnished by Kim Rice.)

Argument in Opposition

Ranked Choice Voting is **NOT** a good fit for Oregonians

Ranked Choice Voting is **COMPLICATED AND CONFUSING**

With RCV, you need to rank everyone running for each race. I've never seen such a complicated form of voting. House Bill 2004 is an eleven-page, single-spaced word salad. Alaska currently has RCV and is in the process of eliminating it due to the complexity and cost of the new form of voting. **Since April of 2024 ten states have ELIMATED RCV.**

Ranked Choice Voting is **EXPENSIVE**

Why isn't there a cost associated with this measure? This is just another way to bill the taxpayers or take money from another program. How many millions of dollars will this cost us? Nothing is free in life, and I am sure the new software will come with a hefty price tag.

Ranked Choice Voting is **TIME CONSUMING**

Currently, it can take weeks to determine a winner. How much longer will it take using this new system????

Ranked Choice Voting is **NOT TRANSPARENT**

How will audits be performed if RCV is used? This new form of voting forces you to vote for candidates that **YOU DO NOT WANT!**

PLEASE JOIN ME IN VOTING NO ON RANKED CHOICE VOTING!!

(This information furnished by Patty DeBois.)

Argument in Opposition

Linn County Republicans urge a **NO** vote on Measure 117 establishing ranked choice voting. We oppose ranked choice voting because it is confusing, centralizes control, can delay results, and will reduce turnout among less engaged voters.

Confusing
Measure 117 only requires some elections to be ranked. This will cause confusion with voters as they look down their ballot and see some elections will be ranked while others will not. Federal and statewide elections will be ranked. Meanwhile the legislators that referred Measure 117 to the voters will not have to run in ranked choice elections.

Centralized Control
With Ranked Choice Voting, the Secretary of State may tally ballots NOT county clerks. This means we lose the local control of our elections we currently enjoy.

Ballots Excluded
Measure 117 and Ranked Choice Voting prescribes that "exhausted ballots" do not count toward the final election result. An exhausted ballot occurs when a voter overvotes, undervotes, or only ranks candidates that are no longer in contention on their ballot. This means a majority of voters may not pick the winning candidate.

Slow
In the 2021 New York City Mayor's race held with ranked choice voting, it took 15 days to announce the winner after numerous problems.

Low Turnout
According to research from the Cato Institute, ranked choice voting may reduce overall turnout with particularly strong impacts on low-propensity voters.

Sidelining Minority Voters
In a study for the Center for Election Confidence, Dr. McCarty found that RCV disproportionately decreases the representation and electoral influence of minority voters because such voters disproportionately "exhaust" their ballots therebyremoving them from decisive vote tabulations.

Please vote **NO** on Measure 117 establishing ranked choice voting.

(This information furnished by Benjamin M Roche, Linn County Republican Central Committee.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges **NO on Measure 117**

Hall of Fame: Oregon's Dumbest Ideas

1. Defunded police (2020)
2. Decriminalized meth, fentanyl, cocaine (2020)
3. Handed out free crack pipes to the homeless (2023)
4. Paid $217 million for bridge never built (2014)
5. Dropped reading and math graduation standards to boost grad rates (didn't work!)
6. ??? Vote to blow up elections with Rank Choice Voting ???

For goodness sakes, Oregon...

We beg you... Stop trying to re-invent every area of life and do the opposite of what everyone knows works. There is a reason Rank Choice Voting schemes have blown up in controversy across America... **10 states have banned Ranked Choice Voting**... and **Eugene voters already soundly rejected it**.

Stop using Oregonians as lab rats for bad ideas.

NO on Measure 117!

Visit us on our daily political news website
OregonWatchdog.com

T*he Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years*

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

We cannot support the election reform Measure 117, Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), as drafted.

This measure was driven by advocates not Election Officials.

YOU need to **KNOW**:

Lack of Funding. There are substantial costs involved with implementing RCV; which counties do not have.

Lack of Uniformity. RCV does not apply to all contests, including State Senators and Representatives, who passed this bill. You will have a multi-page ballot with different forms of voting.

Lack of Transparency. Final tally of combined results will not be done at the local county level.

Lack of Consistency. Local jurisdictions can adopt whatever format of RCV they choose. This will result in multiple forms of RCV contests in one election.

Delayed Results. Election results will be delayed.

Votes not Counted. If you do not follow the RCV contest rules, your vote may not count as you intended.

Election reform is impactful and requires careful consideration, as it affects every voter. It must be non-partisan and supported by adequate local funding. Thoroughly research RCV before you vote. If RCV passes, Election Officials will be tasked with its implementation. Any ensuing confusion or issues will likely lead to your Election Officials sitting through legislative hearings trying to amend how this is currently written. There are serious concerns with the implementation of RCV the way it is written in Measure 117. We are committed to **DEMOCRACY** and **want your vote to count the way <u>you</u> intended.**

Endorsed by:
Stefanie L Kirby, Baker County Clerk
Cheryl Seely, Crook County Clerk
Steve Dennison, Deschutes County Clerk
Dan Loomis, Douglas County Clerk
Derrin (Dag) Robinson, Harney County Clerk
Chris Walker, Jackson County Clerk
Rhiannon Henkels, Josephine County Clerk
Marcie Richey, Linn County Clerk
Gayle V. Trotter, Malheur County Clerk
Bobbi A Childers, Morrow County Clerk
Kimberly Williams, Polk County Clerk
Lisa Feik, Union County Clerk
Sandy Lathrop, Wallowa County Clerk
Lisa Gambee, Wasco County Clerk
Keri Hinton, Yamhill County Clerk

(This information furnished by Rochelle Long, Klamath County Clerk, on behalf of Concerned Election Officials.)

Argument in Opposition

Ranked choice voting is a system that reduces transparency for voters.

As our elections are currently conducted, each voter gets to place a single vote for each office. It's a straightforward simple system.

Under ranked choice voting, multiple votes are placed. The idea is for voters to select multiple candidates so that their vote can change depending on how other people vote. It is a confusing system and requires a computer to determine the results – often weeks later.

Many people are already concerned about the accuracy of vote tabulation. Whether or not this is something that worries you, almost everyone agrees that our elections should be conducted in such a way that no-one has to worry about the accuracy of the results. Introducing ranked choice voting in Oregon will definitely cause more voters to distrust our elections.

Let's stick with a system that allows voters to make a simple choice for their favorite candidate. We don't need a computer program figuring out which candidate is most popular based on crude ranking data. We should stick with a system where the candidate with the most votes wins.

Only a few decades ago, election results were usually known election night – even in most close elections. Recently, that has changed and counting can take weeks.

Let's not further complicate the system.

Please Vote NO on measure 117.

Noah Robinson, PhD
State Senate Candidate, District 2

(This information furnished by Noah Robinson, Noah Robinson for Oregon Senate.)

Argument in Opposition

DO YOU UNDERSTAND RANK CHOICE VOTING OR ARE YOU CONFUSED

In rank choice voting, voters rank candidates for an office from first to last. If no candidate receives a majority of first place votes, the candidate with the least votes is eliminated, and the second place voted on that ballot is divided to the remaining candidates. The process continues until one candidate receives a majority.

EXHAUSTED BALLOT-If you make a mistake on your ballot by ranking two candidates with the same number your vote is eliminated it is called an exhausted ballot. So,in addition if you have voted for a candidate that is no longer in the running,so your vote has been eliminated along with the candidate, but you are also taken out of the results as if you have never cast a vote. ARE YOU CONFUSED?

What makes a good election system is that people understand what their vote means,how thier vote will be counted, how their vote will contribute to the results. Why in the world would you want a system where a human cannot tally the votes,and cannot do a proper audit. Computers complicate our vote because we must trust computers to tally the votes.

For over 200 years it's been one person, one vote we don't need computers all we need is to return to HAND COUNTING.

PLEASE VOTE NO ON RANK CHOICE VOTING

(This information furnished by Darlene KARNER.)

Argument in Opposition

EVERYTHING WE DON'T WANT!

Heads up, Oregon! Our legislature wants to give us a gift: Measure 117, aka Ranked Choice Voting.

RCV is confusing and doesn't deliver the straightforward, transparent elections we're trying to achieve. It encourages long, slow counts that become contentious and make recounts difficult to impossible.

Poll-watchers have trouble following the counting process, opening the door to suspicion and challenge. In other states it has reduced voter turnout and increased the number of discarded ballots.

By taking responsibility out of county hands and placing instead it in a state-level (partisan) office, local oversight is virtually eliminated. How far are we willing to trust *that other party*?

And nobody can tell how much this is likely to cost. (Not a good sign!)

This is Oregon. Wouldn't we rather just keep it simple?

-Gary A Hughes-

(This information furnished by Gary A Hughes.)

Argument in Opposition

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)

- the most **confusing voting system**, even for those whose first language is English.
- could **disenfranchise minority voters**, where English is our second language.

As an immigrant and a leader in my community, I cherish our adopted country, the United States of America. We came here from a nation formerly ruled by a dictator, where our votes held no weight. Becoming a Naturalized United States citizen was a moment of immense joy, as it meant my voice would finally be heard through voting.

Introducing RCV into our election system risks further **marginalizing minority voters** who may struggle with the voting process. Therefore, I am against implementing RCV.

Bahasa Indonesia

Pemungutan Suara Pilihan Peringkat (RCV)

- Sistem pemungutan suara yang paling membingungkan, bahkan bagi mereka yang bahasa utamanya adalah bahasa Inggris.
- Dapat mencabut hak pemilih minoritas, karena bahasa Inggris adalah bahasa kedua kami.

Sebagai seorang imigran dan pemimpin komunitas saya, saya menghargai negara angkat kami, Amerika Serikat. Kami datang ke sini dari sebuah negara yang dulunya diperintah oleh seorang diktator, dimana suara kami tidak didengar. Menjadi warga negara Amerika Serikat yang dinaturalisasi adalah momen yang sangat membahagiakan, itu berarti suara saya pada akhirnya akan didengar melalui pemungutan suara.

Memasukkan RCV ke dalam sistem pemilu kita akan beresiko semakin menyingkirkan pemilih minoritas yang mungkin kesulitan dalam proses pemungutan suara. Oleh karena itu, saya menentang penerapan RCV.

(This information furnished by Helen R Heller.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon wanting to adopt Ranked Choice Voting mirrors its usual confusing and expensive approach. Alaska initially embraced this system but has since recognized its flaws and is moving to repeal it. Ranked Choice Voting mandates that voters rank ALL candidates, regardless if you want them or not, potentially disenfranchising Oregonians who do not grasp this requirement. This complex process risks alienating citizens who do not follow political maneuvers closely.

Additionally, the use of machine-based algorithms for vote counting raises concerns about auditability, further eroding trust in elections. In Washington County, where I reside, delays in final results are already lengthy; Ranked Choice Voting would only exacerbate this issue, turning Election Day into Election Months. Oregonians deserve a streamlined voting process on a single day, not an extended affair.

With over 100 positions affected, voters face an overwhelming number of candidates to consider, potentially leading to voter fatigue and apathy. Moreover, the financial implications remain uncertain, adding to Oregon's already high tax burden. As an example, the state capitol's ongoing budget overruns with no end in sight, the cost of Ranked Choice Voting could prove as burdensome as a new tax.

It is crucial to reject this costly and convoluted voting system that diminishes voter participation and influence. Please **VOTE NO on Measure 117** to preserve your voice in Oregon.

(This information furnished by Jenny Kamprath.)

Argument in Opposition

Opposition to Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) by the Oregon Federation of Republican Women

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) may sound appealing, but it hides significant flaws that undermine the democratic process and weaken the power of your vote. As the Oregon Federation of Republican Women, we stand firmly against this proposed system for several crucial reasons.

Fundamentally, RCV shifts the power of decision-making from the voters to a complex algorithm which counts and reallocates votes in multiple rounds, a process far removed from the straightforward, one-person-one-vote principle that our democracy is built on. RCV introduces a convoluted counting system that can be difficult for the average voter to understand, reducing transparency in our elections.

Under RCV, your vote may not even count towards your preferred candidate. If your top choice is eliminated early, your vote gets transferred to your second or third choice. This redistribution process can result in outcomes that may not reflect the will of the voters. A candidate who was not the first choice of most voters could still win, simply because they were a less polarizing option in later rounds of counting. This marginalizes the voice of the constituency, as the ultimate winner may not be the true representative of the majority's preference.

Additionally, RCV can discourage voter turnout. Voters who are unfamiliar or uncomfortable with this system might choose not to vote at all, further diminishing the representation and inclusiveness of our electoral process.

Our current voting system, though not perfect, provides a clear and direct method for expressing our choices. It ensures that each vote is counted equally and that the candidate with the most votes wins. Let's not sacrifice simplicity, transparency, and fairness for an experimental system that complicates the voting process and undermines the integrity of our elections.

Join us in opposing Ranked Choice Voting. Preserve the power of your vote and protect the clarity of our electoral process. Vote NO on RCV.

Oregon Federation of Republican Women

(This information furnished by Cynthia Sawyer, Oregon Federation of Republican Women.)

Argument in Opposition

There are two simple reasons to vote NO on Measure 117:

1. The Legislature, which is asking *us* to vote 'yes', exempted itself from this measure. If it passes, they won't be following the same rules for their own elections.
2. RCV (Ranked Choice Voting) might as well stand for 'Really Confusing Voting'. It makes voting and ballot counting more difficult and time-consuming.

Please join me in voting NO on this confusing, poorly written, and unfair measure.

(This information furnished by Kim Wallan, State Representative District 6.)

Argument in Opposition

Measure 117 Argument in Opposition

I oppose this totally unnecessary voting measure that **complicates a very simple process**. It would be an **unnecessary cost which can not even be evaluated** and it **delays the results of elections**. Same day voting in person provides an accurate unaltered outcome with a clear outcome without costs or complications.

I believe **manipulating the voting process** in any way is manipulating the outcome and the public's voice.

We don't need to change the way people vote. What we need to do is ensure that all the rules are followed. We need clean voter rolls. We need to ensure that only citizens are voting in our elections. Ranked choice voting is not the answer.

I believe **Ranked Choice Voting** is being put in place to help someone win. When politicians seek to change the election process to favor their own reelection, it **taints the entire process**.

America is supposed to let the people vote in an actual election between candidates. Ranked choice voting **disenfranchises voters** from participating in the actual election between two candidates. Let's **stop trying to rig the process** and let the voters vote like they always have — by picking one candidate for each political office.

Rank Choice Voting creates **voter confusion** and can have **software errors**. In California, one county announced that a programming error led to a miscount across all ranked choice contests, including a race in which an Oakland school board candidate was **wrongly declared the winner.**

Please Join me and **VOTE "NO"** Ranked Choice Voting

(This information furnished by Sherry Kilpatrick.)

Argument in Opposition

Ranked Choice Voting: ILLUSION OF CHOICE

Needing to be educated on **all** the candidates **of every race** to know how to rank them can be daunting, especially if there are 5-20 candidates in each race. For a voter's voice to fully count in every round of an RCV election, the voter must vote for **all** candidates on the ballot, even those the voter may **not** support; otherwise, the ballot is **spoiled and NOT COUNTED.** Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) supporters like to call these "exhausted ballots" or "ballot exhaustion," as if the ballots just got tired and failed to make it to the end of counting. But make no mistake, **these ballots are invalid**. People who took the time to educate themselves and vote **no longer have a say in the election**.

Supporters of RCV argue that the system guarantees that elected officials receive majority support from the electorate. **But this is a FALSE majority that only comes about after vote totals for candidates have been recalibrated (AKA manipulated).**

Additionally, the State of Oregon refuses to allow the People to have access to the coding of our tabulation systems. (See *Washington County vs. Tim Sippel*, 2022.)

Proponents argue that it gives voters more candidates to choose from. But in reality, **it just forces them to vote for candidates they dislike and who hold policy positions they oppose or else they risk trashing their votes**.

RCV diminishes voter confidence in a multitude of ways. It results in election winners losing and election losers winning. It forces voters to vote against their conscience, or even for their opponents, to ensure that their ballot does not end up invalid. Finally, because RCV often guarantees multiple rounds of counting, election results are delayed, which invites distrust and confusion.

To protect voters and their ballots, Oregon should follow the lead of Florida, Idaho, Montana, South Dakota, and Tennessee and ban Ranked-Choice Voting.

(This information furnished by Karen Banks.)

Argument in Opposition

Opposition to Rank Choice Voting:

What is Rank Choice voting? As explained in Time Magazine on November 6, 2019 discussing New York City voting in Rank Choice voting; "The candidate with the majority (more than 50%) of first-choice votes wins outright. If no candidate gets a majority of first-choice votes, then it triggers a new counting process." For the Oregon bill the candidate who did the worst is eliminated and that candidate's votes are redistributed to the next highest ranked active candidate. For example defeated candidate 4's votes go to active candidate 3.

Do you want to have your votes moved to a different candidate, one who you may have voted as your least favored? Do you want your choices altered without your knowledge or consent? Because that can actually happen if Ranked Choice Voting comes to Oregon.

The Wall Street Journal referred to Rank Choice Voting as a scam and called it confusing and coercive referring to Alaska's test of Rank Choice Voting published in Oct. 27, 2022. The article calls Alaska's voting system "hell". The Alaska Police Forum published a report entitled "The Failed Experiment of Ranked-Choice Voting" on October 8th, 2020. The report covers Exhausted Ballots where your vote no longer counts. This is very confusing and creates voter disenfranchisement particularly amongst minority voters for whom English is their second language.

The report also says "Ranked-Choice Voting can neuter third parties and help to perpetuate the two-party system that many voters dislike." Voting is a constitutional right and MUST be protected. The system is already convoluted and as we have seen during the last two elections, trust in our elections system is already wavering. Rank Choice Voting will make elections much more complicated, and open to claims of fraud and tampering. Keep elections safe, transparent and accessible to everyone. Vote No on Rank Choice voting.

Bill Mulloy

(This information furnished by Wilbur A Mulloy Jr.)

Argument in Opposition

VOTE NO on "Measure 117"!

"Bubble gum, bubble gum in a dish, which candidate do you pick?" Remember when you were picked for a game? Or when the kids did not want to choose you and kept going around the tennis shoes... "My momma told me to pick the very best one and you are not it!"

This is Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) in a nutshell. It is the eenie, meenie, miny, moe of voting. If the votes do not land on your first-choice vote, you keep going around the circle until you have to land on someone.

RCV does not honor the person that you want for the job. It gives the votes to the second and third choices of others.

If you only have one candidate who you think is the person for the job, and do not rank the other candidates, your ballot will be "exhausted" sooner than others. Voters who rank all candidates may get a second or third count on their ballot. How is this ever fair? **It should always and forever be ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE!** The very premise of equality is the one-person, one-vote method. Any other method nullifies equal protection under the law. Voting should be absolute and not by a second or third chance.

When you consider the ramifications of RCV, and how the process takes place, you will know that casting your ballot will be complicated, ballot counting has to be done at one location. It will take more people, more time, and more money.

Ranked Choice Voting abolishes "Equal Protection under the Law" and "Equality for all".

Vote NO on "Measure 117"!

(This information furnished by Jodie Fleck.)

Argument in Opposition

RANKED CHOICE VOTING (RCV) - VOTE "NO"!

RCV is an assault on our traditional system of straight-forward MAJORITY voting that has served our nation well for over 100 years. We OPPOSE RCV for the following reasons:

RCV is TOO COMPLEX

In our traditional system of majority voting, voters need only select a SINGLE candidate, whereas RCV requires voters to rank candidates in order of preference. This can be confusing, especially for those less familiar with the electoral process or less familiar with other candidates on the ballot. Confusion can result in voter frustration and withdrawal from voting altogether.

RCV lends itself to the potential of STRATEGIC VOTING

In RCV, voters may be tempted to NOT rank candidates in their true order of preference, but in a way that MAXIMIZES the chances of their preferred candidate winning. This undermines the basic principle of voters expressing their DESIRED CHOICE of a single candidate and can thereby distort the results of the election process.

RCV can be COSTLY and TIME CONSUMING

Why would Oregonians want to spend MORE of their income on an election process that has failed in other states? This system requires substantial changes to the existing voting infrastructure. This includes education of both voters and election officials and the purchasing of ad campaigns. Acquiring new voting machines plus software is expensive. Multiple RCV vote tabulations will extend the time for completion of election results.

RCV does not always produce a MAJORITY WINNER

A candidate who initially received fewer first-choice votes through the redistribution of preferences could, in effect, win the election. The outcome is undemocratic, especially if voters' lesser known preferences play a decisive role in the final outcome. RCV is another example of "smoke and mirrors" to deceive Oregon voters. **Do not be deceived!** Join me and informed voters of Beaverton Precinct 350.

VOTE "NO" ON RANKED CHOICE VOTING!

(This information furnished by Mary Loseke.)

Argument in Opposition

Vote No on M117

We have been voting the same way for many years now.

Why do we need to change something that works?

If we end up with Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), we will definitely NOT have our voices heard in future elections. RCV will simply ensure the power structure remains with those in current power. It will no longer be one person one vote anymore.

RCV has **too many unanswered questions** that **prevents a full and transparent understanding**. All legislative bills and voter approved initiatives should be clear and concise, allowing even someone with a modest education to understand what they are voting on. RCV, does not accomplish this goal. If we want to change anything, **change to in-person voting**.

Consider:

Cost: there's a valid concern of overall cost to implement the RCV voting. It's more costly due to:

A) **Purchasing** all **new machines**

B) **Educating voters** (as many citizens will not fully understand the process), and

C) **Expensive** unauditable **software**.

Timeline: Too many questions unanswered. How long will it take to implement the new system? How long will it take to count the votes? **Currently**, it takes **too long to count** our votes using mail-in ballots. **RCV** will **take even longer**. Voting should not take months.

Successfulness: How successful will RCV be? **How many people will turn out to vote**? How many votes will get thrown out simply because citizens don't understand or are not comfortable with the new process. Will the candidate you want - get your vote or will it get tossed out? Would we be satisfied if many voters decide not to vote if they believe their vote will not count?

There's simply **no transparency**, **full cost is unknown**, and the **impact will decrease voter turnout**.

Let's not throw away our current voting system to idolize a process that benefits the few over the many!

JOIN ME to protect our voting system, by **VOTING NO to Ranked Choice Voting**!

(This information furnished by Corinne Rice.)

Proposed by initiative petition to be voted on at the General Election, November 5, 2024.

Measure No.

118

Increases highest corporate minimum taxes; distributes revenue to eligible individuals; state replaces reduced federal benefits

Result of "Yes" Vote

"Yes" vote increases corporate minimum tax on Oregon sales exceeding $25,000,000; eliminates tax cap; distributes revenue to eligible individuals; state replaces any reduced federal benefits.

Result of "No" Vote

"No" vote retains existing corporate minimum taxes on Oregon sales; twelve tax brackets impose different tax amounts, capped at $100,000 tax on sales exceeding $100,000,000.

Summary

Current law requires corporations to pay higher of either tax on taxable income or corporate minimum tax. Except S corporations, minimum tax amount determined by tax bracket based on corporation's Oregon sales; minimum tax capped at $100,000 for $100,000,000 or more in sales. Beginning 2025, measure removes minimum tax cap; increases minimum tax on all corporations with Oregon sales exceeding $25,000,000 by imposing additional tax of 3% for sales above $25,000,000. Measure directs Department of Revenue to equally distribute increased revenue (minus certain costs) to all individuals residing more than 200 days annually in Oregon. Revenue distribution does not affect individual eligibility for state benefits; measure requires replacement of reduced federal benefits if distribution negatively affects individual's benefits under any need-based program. Other provisions.

Estimate of Financial Impact

The measure establishes a new gross receipts tax as the minimum tax for certain corporations. According to the Legislative Revenue Office, indirect economic costs of the measure include a 1.3 percent increase in prices of goods and services and reductions in jobs, wages and personal incomes. Corporate tax revenues are estimated to increase by $1.3 billion in 2023-25, $14.7 billion in 2025-27, and $15.6 billion in 2027-29.

New revenue raised will be used to issue annual rebates to eligible individuals in Oregon. An estimated $13.6 billion will be required for rebate distributions in 2025-2027 and an estimated $17.1 billion will be required in 2027-29. Administrative costs and any additional payments will be deducted from the amount to be distributed.

Known administrative costs are estimated to be $1.6 million General Fund and 22 permanent positions in the 2023-25 biennium and $48.2 million General Fund and 199 additional permanent positions in the 2025-27 biennium at the Oregon Department of Revenue. The measure will generate a significant workload increase processing applications for the rebate, verifying the identity and eligibility of those applying for the rebates, reviewing payments and tax refunds for fraudulent activity, handling appeals, increasing customer inquiries, increasing audit and collections activity for the new tax, and increasing technology programming. Other major expenses are unknown but could be significant for expenses such as payments for rebate checks, prepaid debit cards, mailings associated with the program, legal fees, and public information costs.

Individuals who lose federal benefits because of the rebate will be held harmless with additional payments. The costs associated with this provision are unknown.
Rebates that are declined by eligible individuals will be available to fund services for senior citizens, health care, and public early childhood education through high school. The impact from these declined rebates is unknown.

Following the initial phase-in, total biennial costs of the rebate program are expected to exceed the new biennial revenue. Estimated indirect impacts on personal income tax revenue are reductions of $12 million in 2023-25, $199 million in 2025-27, and $207 million in 2027-29. Lastly, changes to the economy are projected to reduce state revenue by roughly

$11 million in 2023-25, $150 million in 2025-27 and $400 million in 2027-29.

The corporate kicker will increase by an estimated $1.3 billion in 2025-27, and transfers to the Rainy Day Fund from the General Fund will be reduced.

Impact to local governments is unknown

Committee Members:
Secretary of State LaVonne Griffin-Valade
State Treasurer Tobias Read
Berri Leslie, Director, Dept. of Administrative Services
Betsy Imholt, Director, Dept. of Revenue
Ernest Stephens, Local Government Representative

(The estimate of financial impact was provided by the above committee pursuant to ORS 250.127.)

Text of Measure

Relating to corporate minimum tax; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 317.090.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 317.090 is amended to read:

317.090 Minimum tax. (1) As used in this section **and this 2024 Act:**

(a) "Oregon sales" means:

(A) If the corporation apportions income under ORS 314.650 to 314.665 for Oregon tax purposes, the total sales of the taxpayer in this state during the tax year, as determined for purposes of ORS 314.665;

(B) If the corporation does not apportion income for Oregon tax purposes, the total sales in this state that the taxpayer would have had, as determined for purposes of ORS 314.665, if the taxpayer were required to apportion income for Oregon tax purposes; or

(C) If the corporation apportions income using a method different from the method prescribed by ORS 314.650 to 314.665, Oregon sales as defined by the Department of Revenue by rule.

(b) If the corporation is an agricultural cooperative that is a cooperative organization described in section 1381 of the Internal Revenue Code, "Oregon sales" does not include sales representing business done with or for members of the agricultural cooperative.

(c) "Eligibility year" means the calendar year in which the individual qualifies for the Oregon Rebate by residing in this state in the aggregate more than 200 days.

(d) "Rebate year" means the first calendar year following the eligibility year.

(2) Each corporation or affiliated group of corporations filing a return under ORS 317.710 shall pay annually to the state, for the privilege of carrying on or doing business by it within this state, a minimum tax as follows:

(a) If Oregon sales properly reported on a return are:

(A) Less than $500,000, the minimum tax is $150.

(B) $500,000 or more, but less than $1 million, the minimum tax is $500.

(C) $1 million or more, but less than $2 million, the minimum tax is $1,000.

(D) $2 million or more, but less than $3 million, the minimum tax is $1,500.

(E) $3 million or more, but less than $5 million, the minimum tax is $2,000.

(F) $5 million or more, but less than $7 million, the minimum tax is $4,000.

(G) $7 million or more, but less than $10 million, the minimum tax is $7,500.

(H) $10 million or more, but less than $25 million, the minimum tax is $15,000.

(I) $25 million or more, but less than $50 million, the minimum tax is $30,000.

(J) $50 million or more, but less than $75 million, the minimum tax is $50,000.

(K) $75 million or more, but less than $100 million, the minimum tax is $75,000.

(L) $100 million or more, the minimum tax is $100,000.

(b) If Oregon sales properly reported on a return are $25 million or more, the minimum tax is 3 percent of the excess over $25 million in annual Oregon sales properly reported, in addition to the applicable minimum tax amount specified under paragraph (a) of this subsection.

[(b)] **(c)** If a corporation is an S corporation **with Oregon sales properly reported on an annual return of less than $25 million,** the minimum tax is $150.

(3) The minimum tax is not apportionable (except in the case of a change of accounting periods), is payable in full for any part of the year during which a corporation is subject to tax and may not be reduced, paid or otherwise satisfied through the use of any tax credit.

SECTION 2. The Oregon Rebate.

(1) The increase in corporate minimum tax revenue attributable to Section 1 of this 2024 Act shall be used to provide an equal rebate to each individual, as defined in ORS 316.022, who has resided in this state in the aggregate more than 200 days of the eligibility year.

(2) If the sole reason why an individual is not eligible for the rebate for a calendar year is the date of their birth or death, the individual is eligible for the rebate for the calendar year.

(3) An individual who is eligible to receive a rebate under this section is entitled to receive rebates on behalf of dependents of that individual who qualify for the rebate and on behalf of wards who qualify for the rebate for whom that individual is the guardian.

(4) The rebate under this section:

(a) Is in addition to any other tax credit, refund payment or other mechanism by which excess revenue is returned to personal income taxpayers;

(b) Is not income subject to taxation under ORS chapter 316 or any other provision of Oregon law;

(c) May not be used to determine the eligibility or amount of need of an applicant for or recipient of benefits, including public assistance, as defined in ORS 411.010, and medical assistance, as defined in ORS 414.025;

(d) Is inalienable by any assignment or transfer, is exempt from garnishment, levy or execution, and is protected moneys under ORS 423.105; and

(e) May not be provided to any individual who during the rebate year:

(A) Declines to receive a rebate; or

(B) Fails to claim a rebate on or before December 31 of the rebate year.

(5) A rebate may not be issued under this section, if the amount of the rebate, per individual, is less than $25.

(6) Moneys not distributed as a rebate for the reasons described in subparagraph (4)(e)(A) or subsection (5) of this section shall be used to provide additional funding for services for senior citizens, health care, public early childhood education and public kindergarten through grade 12 education.

(7) Funds generated by the increase in corporate minimum tax specified in section 1 of this 2024 Act during the eligibility year which are not spent for rebates or program administration during the rebate year shall be deposited into a program fund available to the rebate program.

(8) References to an "individual" in this 2024 Act include the estate of an individual who died during the eligibility year.

SECTION 3. Administration of the Oregon Rebate.

(1) On or before December 31 of 2025 and each subsequent year, the Department of Revenue shall determine the net amount available for rebates for the following year by estimating for the current calendar year:

(a) The increase in the amount of corporate minimum tax revenue to be received by the department in the current calendar year attributable to Section 1 of this 2024 Act; plus

(b) Funds remaining in the program balance due to subparagraph (4)(e)(B) or subsection (7) of Section 2 of this 2024 Act; minus

(c) The administrative costs of providing the rebate for the current calendar year, including costs under subsection (3)(e) of this section and the cost of the hold harmless program under section 4 of this 2024 Act for the current calendar year.

(2) The net amount available for rebates determined under subsection (1) of this section shall be adjusted by the difference between the amount estimated pursuant to subsection (1)(a) of this section for the prior year and the actual amount of corporate minimum tax revenue received by the Department of Revenue attributable to section 1 of this 2024 Act for the prior year.

(3) The Department of Revenue shall:

(a) For each rebate year, estimate the number of individuals eligible to receive a rebate under section 2 of this 2024 Act;

(b) Calculate the per-individual amount of rebate available to individuals under section 2 of this 2024 Act by dividing the amount determined pursuant to subsections (1) and (2) of this section by the number estimated pursuant to subsection (3)(a) of this section;

(c) Issue the equal rebates to eligible individuals as soon as is practicable;

(d) Make the rebate available to individuals as:

(A) A refundable tax credit, if the rebate is requested concurrently with an Oregon personal income tax return; or

(B) A cash payment within forty-five (45) days of the individual claiming the rebate at any time during the rebate year, regardless of whether the individual has filed or will file an Oregon personal income tax return; and

(e) Provide information and education in multiple languages to state and local government agencies, nonprofit corporations and other organizations that are capable of helping individuals to receive a rebate.

(4) The individual must present acceptable documents to prove eligibility under section 2 of this 2024 Act for the eligibility year for the individual and for any dependent or ward for whom the individual claims the rebate. The Department of Revenue shall determine by rule which documents satisfy the eligibility requirements.

(a) The Department of Revenue shall require the individual to provide, for the individual and for any claimed dependents and wards, the Social Security number(s) assigned by the United States Social Security Administration, the Individual Taxpayer Identification number(s) assigned by the United States Internal Revenue Service, or a written statement that the individual, dependent or ward has not been assigned such number.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (4)(c) of this section, acceptable alternative documents to prove eligibility include but are not limited to the following for the individual and separately for any claimed dependent or ward:

(A) An unexpired valid passport from the person's country of citizenship;

(B) An unexpired valid consular identification document issued by the consulate of the person's country of citizenship, if the department determines that the procedure used in issuing the consular identification document is sufficient to prove the person's identity;

(C) A driver license, driver permit or identification card issued by this state that is unexpired or expired not more than 13 years from the date on which the individual claims the rebate; or

(D) A driver license, driver permit or identification card issued by another state that is unexpired or expired not more than one year from the date on which the individual claims the rebate.

(c) The Department of Revenue may refuse to accept any document described in subsection (4) of this section, if the department finds that:

(A) The document is fraudulent or has been altered; or

(B) The procedures used by the agency that issued the document are not sufficient for proving the person's identity or date of birth.

(d) The Department of Revenue shall by rule require proof to verify the address of an individualclaiming a rebate prior to issuance of a rebate. Verification of proof of address may include, but is not limited to, documents showing the individual's asserted address, such as a utility bill, a tax return, a record from a financial institution, a proof of insurance card, a health benefits card, a selective service card, a mortgage document, or a lease agreement. The individual may provide the proof of address by submitting proof in the form of an original document or a copy of a document, use an electronic device to display proof of address, or provide proof through the use of a third party address verification system or a certification from a third party nonprofit corporation which houses or receives mail on behalf of unhoused individuals.

(e) The Department of Revenue shall require the individual to provide for verification by the department a statement asserting that the individual and any claimed dependent or ward each resided in this state in the aggregate more than 200 days during the eligibility year.

SECTION 4. Hold Harmless: Avoiding Reduction of Benefits.

(1) The Department of Human Services shall seek waivers or other exemptions from the federal government that are necessary to exclude payments under Section 2 of this 2024 Act from consideration for the temporary assistance for needy families program in ORS 412.001 to 412.069, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (as defined in ORS 411.806), medical assistance (as defined in ORS 414.025), and any other need-based program funded in whole or in part with federal funds, including those administered by the Social Security Administration.

(2) If the federal government denies waivers or other exemptions requested by the department under subsection (1) of this section, the Department of Revenue shall semiannually reimburse a participant receiving payments under Section 2 of this 2024 Act in an amount equal to the reduction, caused by receipt of the Section 2 payments, in the participant's need-based benefits.

(3) All payments under this section shall be funded entirely by the additional revenue attributable to Section 1 of this 2024 Act.

(4) Payments under this section are not income subject to taxation under ORS chapter 316 or any other provision of Oregon law.

SECTION 5. Rules.

The Department of Revenue and Department of Human Services shall adopt rules, policies, and procedures necessary to carry out this 2024 Act. Any challenge to such rules, policies, procedures or other elements of implementation may be brought under the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Oregon, in addition to all other remedies.

SECTION 6. Funding.

Moneys shall be continuously appropriated to the Department of Revenue to distribute the rebates and the hold harmless program available under this 2024 Act.

SECTION 7. Operational Date. The amendments to ORS 317.090 by section 1 of this 2024 Act apply to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2025.

SECTION 8. Severability. If any provision of this 2024 Act is held invalid for any reason, all remaining provisions of this 2024 Act shall remain in place and shall be given full force and effect.

Note: **Boldfaced** type indicates new language; [*brackets and italic*] type indicates deletions or comments.

Explanatory Statement

Ballot Measure 118 increases the corporate minimum tax for any corporation with annual Oregon sales of over $25 million, as reported on a tax return for the year. The revenue from the tax increase will be used to provide equal tax rebates or cash payments to eligible individuals living in Oregon. The increase to the corporate minimum tax is three percent of the corporation's annual Oregon sales over $25 million.

The measure applies to "C," "B," and other corporations which generally pay income or excise taxes, and to "S" corporations, which generally do not directly pay corporation-level taxes. Currently, corporations other than S corporations must pay either a tax based on the corporation's taxable income, or the applicable corporate minimum tax, whichever is larger. The corporate minimum tax currently ranges from $150 to $100,000 per year, based on the amount of a corporation's Oregon sales. For example, a corporation, other than an S corporation, with annual Oregon sales between $25 million and $50 million pays a minimum tax of $30,000 per year. Current law caps the minimum tax at $100,000 per year for corporations with Oregon sales of $100 million or more. Under current law, an Oregon S corporation pays $150 annually, without regard to sales.

Measure 118 imposes a tax increase on corporations, including S corporations, with Oregon sales of over $25 million per year, in the amount of three percent of Oregon sales over $25 million. This is in addition to current corporate minimum taxes.

Measure 118 requires the increase in corporate minimum tax revenue to be rebated in equal amounts to any individuals who have lived in Oregon for 200 days during the previous calendar year with exceptions for births and deaths. Individuals with eligible dependents or wards receive the rebates for those dependents and wards. The Department of Revenue (DOR) determines the amount available for rebate each year.

The measure states that (1) revenue from unclaimed rebates would carry over to the following year and (2) for rebates which are declined, the legislature must allocate the money not rebated to services for senior citizens, health care, public early childhood education and public kindergarten through grade 12 education.

Rebates paid under this measure are not subject to state tax and do not affect eligibility for state benefit programs. The measure directs the Department of Human Services to seek waivers from the federal government for recipients who participate in specified federal benefit programs, so that their benefits are not decreased. If the federal government denies waivers, the measure directs the DOR to reimburse federal benefit program participants for the reduction in their benefits. Reimbursements are to be funded only by revenues from the tax increase imposed by the measure.

The measure provides direction on administration and rebate eligibility, and continuously appropriates funding to the DOR for administration.

The measure applies to 2025 and later tax years and authorizes rebates to be paid beginning in 2026.

Committee Members:	**Appointed by:**
Antonio Gisbert	Chief Petitioners
Dan Meek	Chief Petitioners
Jennifer Dressler	Secretary of State
Angela Wilhelms	Secretary of State
Cory Streisinger	Members of the Committee

(The above committee was appointed to provide an impartial explanation of the ballot measure pursuant to ORS 251.215.)

Argument in Favor

Listen to the Experts: Of Course $1,600 Helps!

I want to set the record straight about some bad economic arguments against Measure 118 that are based on a report by the Legislative Revenue Office (LRO).

1. For analysis, LRO used the Oregon Tax Incidence Model — the same inaccurate model that repeatedly causes the kicker to kick, by ever larger amounts. Simply put, these predictions are unreliable.
2. LRO didn't model Measure 118; they modeled something totally different! Measure 118 increases the minimum tax rate for fewer than 2% of corporations doing business in Oregon, but LRO modeled a tax paid by every single business here. So the predictions make no sense.
3. LRO ignored many positive impacts on the economy from Oregonians spending, saving, or investing their $1,600 per person rebates every year. Besides the direct benefits to our families, increased spending creates jobs and boosts revenue from gas taxes, alcohol, marijuana, lottery sales, and other sources.

I expect the state budget will be in better shape with Measure 118 than without it.

The huge corporations (Comcast, etc.) that will be funding our rebates always argue that the sky will fall if they have to pay their fair share, but that's just not true. Oregon will remain a good place to do business, and Oregonians will have more money to spend.

Affected corporations have to compete with smaller companies that won't pay higher taxes, so they can't just raise prices and expect to keep customers.

After all, if they could simply pass this tax along to consumers, they wouldn't be spending so much money to oppose it! But even if prices go up as much as LRO predicts (and they won't), Oregon families will still end up better off after their rebates.

Daniel Morris, MS, PhD

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Oregon Rebate Will Keep Renters Housed

Oregon renters are struggling to stay in their homes. About half of renters in Portland can't afford a 1-bedroom apartment. The Oregon Rebate will make the crucial difference for so many renters struggling to make ends meet.

The mission of Portland Tenants United is to build power and solidarity among the tenant class throughout the Portland metro region as a member-driven tenant union. Through organizing, direct action, coalition building, and civic engagement, PTU fights to keep people in their homes, and to achieve dignity and security for all tenants. Portland Tenants United pushes for public and cooperative housing structures that don't extract profits on the backs of struggling renters and work with tenants to assert our needs directly to managers and landlords. Additionally, we also believe in harm reduction measures that support renters as we work towards our goals.

Measure 118 will put desperately needed money in the hands of Oregonians who otherwise won't have the money to pay the rent, and will help keep them housed.

Vote YES on Measure 11

Portland Tenants United

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Let's Put Food on Every Table – Vote YES on 118

Can we all agree that no child should go to bed hungry? Oregon is failing hard at making sure our kids are fed.

In 2021, 1 out of every 5 children in Oregon experienced food insecurity. These numbers are 2-3x higher among Black, Indigenous, and Latinx households..

Think about a classroom of kids, reading books, learning their times tables. Six of those kids don't have enough food to eat.

Measure 118 will give these kids and families the extra money they need. **A single mom of two will have $4800 more each year to fill her cupboards and put food on the table.**

When people are hungry, it's tough to think about math, or to give the right change back to a customer. It's tough to think at all. Kids can't focus at school. Adults struggle to do their jobs well. Feeding people is one of the simplest ways to make us more effective as a community and a society.

The impact of Measure 118 is huge. It will cut childhood poverty by 49%, giving kids a better chance to eat well and grow up healthy and strong.

Let's have corporations pay 3 pennies for every dollar over $25 million in Oregon revenue Oregon so we can give the money back to Oregonians. Let's put food on our tables.

Vote YES for Measure 118!

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

If you want a $1160 to $1686 annual refundable tax credit you should **vote yes**.

If you want large C & B corporations with revenue over $25 million to pay for your rebate you should **vote yes**.

If you want to reduce overall state government spending by $876 million or more given the measure will require other revenues to be diverted to these rebates then you should **vote yes**.

If you want to avoid an 12-15 cent legislative gas tax increase as the measure requires $281 to $350 million be placed in the highway fund for roads only per Oregon Constitution Article IX Sec 3a then you should **vote yes**.

If you want the corporate kicker used to fund K-12 education to be increased annually by $1.3 billion you should **vote yes**.

If you want to protect S-Corporations who are NOT in the minimum tax statues or measure even if over $25 million in revenue then **vote yes**.

If you oppose reduced funding of the reserve rainy day fund you should **vote no**.

If you oppose a sales tax on large C-Corps with revenues over $25 million you should **vote no**.

If you think the Democrat controlled legislature will change the measure after passage, which it will, then you should **vote no**.

Confused? Yep. The above statements are based on Legislative Revenue Office reports, Legislative Counsel opinions, the Secretary of State's estimated of financial impact, the explanatory committee statement, and submittals on the SOS webpage. Then there is a rabid AG Opinion for which little of the above documents match.

Thus, the Democrat controlled legislature will change anything that is passed regardless of the voter's intent or will. Do you trust the legislature? **Not me.** A legislature whose majority operates in secret like good fascist governments

do elsewhere? Where the entire process is controlled by two people: the Democrat Speaker and Democrat President?

Linked documents above:

https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/boquist/ruleselectionsdocuments/IP%2017%20Measure%20118%20Background%20Material.pdf

Vote wisely.

Brian J. Boquist

Oregon State Senator

(This information furnished by Brian J Boquist.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 118 Would Only Help, Not Harm

One important fact has made us a supporter of Measure 118: the $1,600 will not be counted as income.

The Oregon Rebate will support our community members with disabilities. It will not be counted as income.

This means that social security and disability benefits will not be impacted. If you receive this support, you will not have to choose between the Oregon Rebate and your hard-fought benefits.

The Oregon Rebate will support our elderly. It will not be counted as income.

For those living on fixed incomes, the Oregon Rebate will not be counted as income, so it will not hurt access to Medicaid, or other benefits.

Instead, it will help you cover skyrocketing out-of-pocket costs for medicine. You won't have to choose between eating and having the important medication you need to stay healthy.

The Oregon Rebate will not be counted as income. It makes families stronger.

If you are a single parent of two children, your $4,800 will not be counted as income.

- **It will not reduce the amount of your housing voucher.**
- **It will not impact your child's access to free or reduced lunch.**
- **It will not change your eligibility for the Oregon Health Plan.**

That $4,800 will help you pay for the things you need most for you and your family.

The Oregon Rebate makes the lives of ALL OREGONIANS better.

Join me in VOTING YES ON 118!

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 118: A Lifeline for Survivors Like Me

When I was 21 I found myself pregnant and in a violent relationship. My pregnancy embolden my partner, he felt confident that it would be harder for me to leave with a baby. He was right.

Financial abuse often goes hand-in-hand with domestic abuse. Abusers control bank accounts and monitor spending and violence increases when spending goes unaccounted for.

Right now, abusers are reading this statement and are worried about the financial help Measure 118 would give to their partners to leave.

When I left my abuser, I had an 11 month old baby on my hip. My sister and mom went underground with us so we could all be safe — my abuser said he would kill them to get to me if I left — and I believed him. We quit our jobs, dropped out of school and pooled resources. It was less than $500. We lived on an old friend's couch for months, a person my partner didn't know existed, in order to feel safe while we scraped money together to find long-term housing.

If the Oregon Rebate had existed then, we could have timed our escape with the yearly rebate. Together, my sister, mom, child and I would have had $6,400 to move to another city and rent an apartment. My child would have spent his first birthday in his new home.

FreeFrom has found ***that $730 can be enough to help a survivor escape their abuser*** . Oregon Rebate gives more than twice that amount every year.

On Election Day, every Oregonian has a chance to support survivors like me to escape their abusers and get their children to safety.

Please stand with me and Vote Yes! On Measure 118.

Thank you!

Crystal R.

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

You pay more taxes in Oregon than corporations. Isn't that bizarre?

Our tax system is deeply unfair, with corporations paying a small percentage of overall taxes. Oregon is no different.

When passed, Measure 118 would change this.

With the Oregon Rebate, corporations will essentially pay your owed taxes at the end of the year for you, so you don't have to.

For people who make less than $40,000, when you file your taxes and still owe a little more to the state, you can choose to use your Oregon Rebate to pay those. The Rebate will cover the extra taxes you owe and still have some left over for you.

This flips the burden of paying taxes from you, to corporations, and it completely changes who funds the state budget (aka the Oregon General Fund).

To use a quote from the state Legislative Revenue Office report on Measure 118: **"Collectively, filers with less than $40,000 of income would move from paying $458 million in taxes to receiving a refund of $550 million."** You can google it.

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!

Put another way. Currently....

64% of the state budget is paid by you and individual tax payers.

Meanwhile....

14% of the state budget is paid by Corporations.

When passed, Measure 118 will significantly shift these numbers so that:

Personal income taxes will make up 38% of the General Fund

Corporate taxes will make up 41% of the General Fund.

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

For once, have wealthy corporations pay into our General Fund.

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

We, the Signature Gatherers of Oregon Rebate, thank you!!

You made it possible for 118 to make it on the ballot!!

From Coos Bay to La Grande to Klamath Falls, we had more than 170,000 conversations in our communities, with our neighbors, friends, family and perfect strangers throughout our state! You asked all the questions, and we had as many answers as we could muster.

Measure 118 is about as Oregonian as it gets. We, the people, stood in all 11 Oregon seasons to engage with you and collect your signature so we all can get $1,600/year.

We found common ground across political ideologies: that giant, out-of-state corporations don't pay enough in taxes, and it's reasonable that they pay a little more. We talked about who should get it, if this will just go to the state budget, and whether people should just get it.

One thing was apparent: Oregon doesn't want wealthy corporations to steal from us anymore and we can all use some relief.

We can all agree that inflation over the last four years should be criminal. Inflation between 2020 and 2024 was 22.7% and over half of that inflation went directly to shareholders' pockets.

So, why should you listen to them, and not your neighbors?

We live here with you—they don't. Their mission is to take as much money as we will let them to fill their shareholders' pockets. Our mission has been to help lift every Oregonian.

Join us in voting Yes! On Measure 118.

David Carlson
Nichole Aulbach
Iain Hamp
Patty Sherin
Leaf Evergreen
Wendy Crofoot

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Giving Cash to Everyone is a Bi-partisan, National Policy

Vote Yes! On Measure 118 so Oregon Continues the Tradition

Guess what? Giving cash is a go-to policy for conservatives and liberals alike. In the U.S., every one of our last four presidents has recognized the power of direct cash payments to support Americans.

Cash payments have been used by both Republican and Democratic presidents ***because they work.***

- Republican **President Richard Nixon** endorsed and nearly passed a "Federal Negative Income" tax, which would have created a permanent income floor for every American.
- In 1982, the first **Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend** payments are issued (variable, about $1,5000 on average), Alaskans' lived experience and long-term research proves value of direct cash transfers, extremely popular policy, inflation goes down compared to the rest of US.
- **George W. Bush** sent $300-600 rebates to adults, plus $300 per child, in 2001 to help families during economic uncertainty.
- **President Barack Obama** followed in 2008 with similar payments of $300-$600 per individual and $300 per child during the housing and financial crisis.
- **President Donald Trump** provided stimulus checks to millions of Americans during the COVID-19 pandemic to help families stay afloat.
- **President Joe Biden** proposed and helped pass an expanded, fully refundable Child Tax Credit, which included payments of roughly $300 pers child per month to help families with kids manage the economic challenges of the pandemic.

Measure 118 would make this effective, bipartisan approach a permanent feature of the Oregon economy — creating a $1,600/year income floor for all Oregonians to stand on. By raising corporate taxes slightly, we can guarantee that everyone will have money to put back into the economy.

This isn't a new idea — it's a tested policy that both sides of the political aisle have used to create economic stability and stimulate the economy.

Vote YES on Measure 118!
Cash is powerful. It's something we can all agree on.

Income Movement

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 118 Would Support Unpaid Caregiving Work

A Yes! Vote for Measure 118 Is a Vote for Oregon Women and Caregivers

The vast majority of labor done in the home is unpaid care work. This includes caring both for children and caring for elderly parents. It is "informal" work. But we all know, it is some of the most important work we can do. It is a vital part of a healthy, thriving community and country.

With stagnant wages and high costs for care, it is often more cost effective for an adult in a family to stay at home and provide the needed care. Today that adult is still — most of the time — a woman.

Measure 118 would pay women and families for a small amount of the unpaid care work they do each day.

There is a movement in our country focused on building a care economy that prioritizes the investment into what is currently unpaid work: caregiving. The US and Oregon are far behind supporting care for families:

- The United States is one of the only countries NOT to have paid family / maternal leave. (Along with Micronesia, Papua New Guinea and a few others.)
- Bulgaria provides more than 58 weeks of paid maternity leave, paying 90% of the woman's income.
- Oregon provides 12 weeks of paid maternity leave capped at $1,514/week.

Measure 118 helps families by providing support so parents can spend more time with their babies after they are born, which studies have shown support healthier children across their lives.

Voting Yes for Measure 118 is a vote for strong families and a vote to support caregivers' unpaid labor.

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

Income Movement

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Stress is killing us. Literally.

44% of Oregonians experience financial stress, struggling to make ends meet.

Financial stress is like a car stuck in the mud, revving its engine but going nowhere, just burning fuel and wearing out the engine.

A win for Measure 118 means a little less financial stress for the nearly 2 million Oregonians who can't afford an unexpected $500 expense like a care repair or a deductible from a hospital visit.

Measure 118 will give every Oregonian $1,600 every year, with no strings attached. This means that everyone gets help every year, because income doesn't have to start at zero.

Studies have shown that as little as $500 a month to a household — or $6,000 a year — reduces stress and improves the mental health of adults at similar rates as having them go on medication. Check out the Stockton Economic Empowerment Demonstration, it's shocking.

If you are one of the 44% Oregonians experiencing financial instability, we know the stress you experience:

- Going to the grocery store at the end of the month and adding up every item before going to the checkout to make sure you don't experience the shame of your debit card being declined - or an overdraft fee.
- Or the stress and sorrow of having to tell your child they can't play on the football team because you can't afford the fees.
- Or the shame in not having a decent shirt to wear when you go to a job interview that might pay you just a little bit better.

Let's give each other a little more breathing room.
A little more financial security.
Let's make our lives better.

Join us in voting Yes! On Measure 118.

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

The Next Generation Needs Measure 118

PARENTS: Join Us in Voting YES for MEASURE 118.
Our Children Deserve It.

Our Children Need Us to Fight for a Better Future.

For the first time in history, our children can expect a lower standard of living than us. Getting a college degree just means more debt, with no guaranteed road to a good career. Owning a house feels impossible for most people. The American Dream does not exist for our children.

We want our child — and all Oregon children — to feel hopeful about their futures. The Oregon Rebate is HOPE.

Every child in Oregon will receive $1,600 every year, from birth. This can be used to ensure they are happy, safe, and secure growing up. Or if it is saved, it is more than $28,000 waiting for them when they turn 18. That money can be the start of a down payment on a house. It could pay for a trade school, or a first year of college.

Voting YES on MEASURE 118 is how we FIGHT for our children's FUTURE.

What would it mean for our children to know that they have money waiting for them when they become adults? They would imagine the possibilities. They would make plans for their future. They may even start to dream.

Help unlock a better life for you and your kids with one easy choice.

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

Keri Troehler Parent and Educator

Brett Duesing Parent and Writer

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Who's paying so that you don't get $1,600?

Those opposing Measure 118 have spent millions to flood your tv channels and social media feeds with ads to scare you into voting against your own best interest and turning down $1,600 every year for you and each member of your family.

The corporations behind the opposition are trying to distort our democracy.

Let's take a look at who has been paying for those ads (spoiler - it's highly profitable corporations).

- **Koch Industries** contributed $200,000. They had $125 Billion in revenue in 2023
- **Grocery Retail PAC** contributed $1,000,000, which includes Kroger, Albertsons, Costco and Winco. Kroger had $31.77 billion in gross profits in 2023.
- **Washington Federal Bank** contributed $50,000. With $257 million in profits in 2023 - most coming from overdraft, ATM and other fees off the back of everyday people.
- **Progressive Insurance** contributed $100,000. They had $9.4 billion in profits in 2023.

And these numbers are from late August, before the opposition started running the majority of their disinformation campaign. By the time you read this, these numbers will be so much higher.

These corporations say Measure 118 would be an ENORMOUS tax increase for them. Going from 0.12% tax on each dollar of revenue over $25,000,000 to a 3% tax on those dollars is an enormous increase? To be clear, this is three pennies of every dollar in revenue made **after** the first $25 million.

Corporations are scared. They don't want to pay their fair share.
End of story.

Fight against corporate interests.

Join us in voting Yes! On Measure 118.

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

Tax giant corporations a bit more, then rebate $1,600 to every Oregonian, every year

Hello fellow voter,

Measure 118 is a people-designed and people-powered statewide ballot initiative that was born in coffee shops and community spaces in Eugene.

Measure 118 does just two things:

1. Measure 118 increases the minimum corporate tax after $25 million on in-state revenue from today's less than 0.12% to 3%.

- Only the largest corporations, those that make more than $25 million every year in Oregon, will pay more.
- It doesn't matter where a corporation is based, in or out of state, they just have to be big enough (like, Comcast, based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) to make that much revenue in the state.

2. Measure 118 rebates the new revenue (minus program administration and related costs) back to every Oregonian (every human being who lives in Oregon).

- The value of the rebates will be over $1,600 per person per year after full implemented in the 2nd year.
- The value of the rebates will change a bit up and down depending on the economy, but is expected to increase with time.

- Kids, dependents, seniors, and everyone who spends at least 200 days of the year in Oregon qualifies for the rebate (and there are exceptions to include Oregonians who the 200-day test because of the date of their birth or death).

And, that's it. That's really all Measure 118 does.

Could you use $1,600?

We will all be better off with our rebates and child poverty will be cut by about half. Our local businesses will do better because everyone of their customers will have an extra $1,600 to spend, and our state's economy will grow (by about 3%).

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

The Oregon way is to innovate, develop new solutions

Since 2018, Brown Hope has achieved tangible success in advancing the prosperity of working families in Oregon, specifically with Black residents of Multnomah County. Brown Hope is a non-profit working to inspire racial healing by creating innovative programs for Black, Brown, and Indigenous Oregonians, including community building programs, mental health support, and direct cash assistance.

It's through initiatives we've led, such as Black Resilience Fund and Power Hour, that we've witnessed first hand how principles of trust based philanthropy, giving cash amounts directly to people, from $300 to $2,000, can be a lifeline for someone to grasp and leap into measurable economic success.

I've been doing this work for almost 6 years, and I know that $1,600 per person, per year, will seriously change lives.

For decades, direct cash programs and policies around the world have produced data-driven results, enjoying support from business and civil rights leaders, to presidential candidates, and even counties and municipalities in our very own state.

If we are going to stimulate Oregon's economy, it needs to be through grassroots, people-focused strategies, so that every working Oregonian can know for sure that the state we call home is invested in their future.

Measure 118 is a universal direct cash program that will guarantee $1,600 a year to every Oregonian, ensuring that no one is left behind. It is time for Oregon to once again be a shining beacon for this nation to prove that we can take serious action to help our local economy.

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

cameron whitten, Founder of Brown Hope

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

$1,600 for Every Oregonian?

Oregon Won't Be the First State to Do This!

Let's look at Alaska: Spoiler! It didn't create inflation.

Big corporations keep saying that giving everyone in Oregon $1,600 a year will lead to inflation, making everything more expensive and leaving everyone worse off.

This is simply not true, and is designed to scare everyday Oregonians into voting against the measure so that corporations don't have to pay their fair share.

Measure 118 does not make Oregon a guinea pig for new legislation.

Let's take a look at Alaska, a state that has been paying its residents a similar annual rebate since 1982. The Alaska Permanent Fund, as it is called, has been paying between $1,000 – $1,800 to every resident, every year, for 42 years. The amount varies, based on annual revenue the state generates from its mines, oil and gas reserves.

The Results in Alaska? A yearly cash payment does not cause inflation. In fact, it helps to control it.

- In the years between 1961-1981, before Alaska started paying out its Permanent Fund Dividend, inflation in Alaska was 8% HIGHER than the national average.
- In the years between 1982-2023, after Alaska started paying out its Permanent Fund Dividend, inflation in Alaska was 9% LOWER than the national average.

Every year, when the Alaska Dividend payments are paid, stores across the state run deep discount sales, competing for all of those new dollars deposited into accounts. This will happen in Oregon too!

If Alaska can achieve stable prices and economic equality with their annual dividend, Oregon can too.

Let's control inflation, reduce inequality, and build a better future for everyone in our state.

Join us in voting Yes! On Measure 118.

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 118: Customers with Cash Help Grow Small Businesses

Vote Yes on 118 and Support Local Economies and Mom and Pop Shops Like Ours

For small shops in Oregon like ours, the Oregon Rebate is a huge opportunity.

Corporations will finally pay their fair share. That means it will take some of the tax burden off of us and other small shops, local entrepreneurs, and family-owned businesses.

Right now, in Oregon, *sole proprietors and LLCs pay higher effective tax rates than big corporations* . We can't afford to hire expensive lawyers to find tax loopholes and deductions like they can. The Oregon Rebate will only tax corporations like Comcast and Kroger, which often avoid paying state taxes.

The Oregon Rebate only raises *the minimum corporate tax rate on in-state revenue over $25 million* . Small and medium-sized businesses don't make $25 million in revenue each year in Oregon — that's an average of $68,000 every day. I've never closed my shop at the end of the day and had that kind of money in the till!

Measure 118 will inject over $6 billion annually directly into the hands of every Oregonian, creating a surge in consumer spending. Here's what that means:

- $21 million flowing into La Grande every year.
- $3.1 million boosting Sherman County annually.
- $35.1 million supporting Klamath Falls each year.
- $178.6 million enhancing Gresham's economy every year.

When money goes into the hands of everyday people, they spend it at local shops like ours.

WHEN CORPORATIONS KEEP PROFITS, NONE OF IT GOES BACK INTO OUR LOCAL ECONOMIES. Instead, CEOs get millions and their shareholders profit. We need an economy that works for all of us!

Join Us in Voting YES on Measure 118!

Let's keep our economy growing.

Our Spot PDX

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Our Grandparents Deserve Better
Time to Vote Yes! On 118

The average cost of a nursing home in Oregon is nearly $15,000 per month! Medication for arthritis can be as much as $800 per month, after insurance.

Being old costs a lot. And Social Security and Medicare, the programs retired people paid into, do not cover enough.

Grandparents across Oregon are having to pick between paying for their medicine or their next meal.

Measure 118 offers a solution. By slightly raising the corporate minimum tax rate on revenue made over $25 million in Oregon, we can provide $1,600 every year to every Oregonian, including our elderly.

This extra money can make a huge difference for those on fixed incomes, reducing senior poverty by 26% and helping to cover everyday costs.

When you retire, would it be helpful to have a little extra money so you can relax and feel less stressed about making ends meet?

If you're already retired, think not only of yourself, but the relief of knowing every one of your kids and grandkids will receive $1,600 each year?

This measure is about more than just money — it's about quality of life. Let's make sure our seniors have the financial security to enjoy their golden years.

Join us in voting Yes! On Measure 118.

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

THE RENT IS TOO DAMN HIGH!

$1,600 for Every Oregonian (Kids Count Too), Every Year, Will Help!

Vote Yes! on Measure 118

There is a housing crisis in Oregon. We have over 20,000 individuals experiencing some degree of houselessness every year.

Measure 118 offers a real solution by rebating over $1,600 to every Oregonian, every year — $6,400 for a household of four.

When we Vote Yes! on Measure 118 we can give ourselves and our neighbors a better chance to get over the hurdles that challenge our ability to shelter everyone.

Oregonians are feeling the squeeze, being forced to move from their neighborhoods to keep a roof over their heads. We all deserve the dignity to stay in our homes. Measure 118 will help stabilize our housing and our communities.

The Economist agrees, "the most efficient way to spend money on the homeless might be to give it to them" ("Cutting out the Middle Men," Nov. 4th, 2010).

How much shelter does $1,600 get you?

- Does it pay for one or two months of rent?
- Could it help someone "bridge" a tough couple of months to avoid eviction?
- Does it cover moving costs to find a safer place?
- Does it allow you to start saving for the down payment on a house of your own? For a four-person household, the combined rebate of $6,400 every year can add up fast.
- Could it be an extra mortgage payment to get your house paid off that much faster?

Let's take a stand against the housing crisis and help our communities thrive so we all have a better chance at a better life.

Vote Yes! on Measure 118

Community Alliance of Tenants
Sean & Mary Nikas (Busy Bee Real Estate)
Chandra Ashford

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 118: Rural Oregonians Deserve a Break.

$1,600 Goes a Long Way in Rural Oregon!

In nearly every area of life, people living in rural areas have it harder than those living in urban areas. Measure 118 can help.

Rural Oregon has double the poverty rates as cities in our state.

Rural families make less: Finding a good paying job is hard in rural communities. The median income in Multnomah County in 2020 was around $70,000, in rural Lake County, it was closer to $43,000. Unemployment rates are higher in rural areas too.

Getting to a doctor means a LONG drive: There's less than 1 primary care physician per 1,000 residents (cities have twice as many doctors!). That means people in rural communities have to take more time off of work for longer drives and pay more in gas to get to a doctor.

Good housing is hard to find: Costs for rent and mortgages might be lower in rural Oregon, but there's less good, affordable housing available. New construction lags and housing shortages are the reality.

Giant corporations — those with more than $25 million in Oregon revenue – are mostly out of state or are based in the I-5 corridor. **They barely pay taxes while rural Oregonians continue to foot the bill for so much in the state.**

Make corporations pay their fair share and give rural Oregonians a little breathing room. A family of four will get $6400 every year. That's not small potatoes.

Vote YES for Measure 118!

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

It's almost like some of our elected officials care more about their corporate donors than what's best for us, right?

Why don't they want us to have an extra $1,600?
Who does this harm?

The facts are:

1. Giant corporations like Comcast and Koch Industries pay a corporate minimum tax rate that is less than 0.12% of revenue, while you and I pay between 4.75% and 9.9% of iincome.

2. A yearly rebate of over $1,600 for every Oregonian will go a long way to help us all cover our bills and the rising cost of everything.
3. When Oregonians do better, the whole state benefits!

So why are the big establishment parties not championing Measure 118?

Why is it that when the people come together to create policies for themselves, those in power often work to squash them?

The answer might be as simple as this: Big corporations and establishment politicians don't want you to benefit from Measure 118, because it threatens the profits of the big donors to politicians.

Don't be fooled by the rhetoric from these powerful entities. They are putting politics and their corporate funders ahead of your best interests.

And this is why we need strong political parties beyond the duopoly and strong people-powered movements!

Measure 118 isn't harmful to Oregon or us Oregonians. It's only harmful to a small number of very large corporations that pour millions into lobbying efforts and political contributions. While they flood our elected leaders with influence, ordinary citizens like you and me struggle to have our voices heard.

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

"Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."
– Frederick Douglass

Pacific Green Party

Oregon Progressive Party

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 118: A Fair and Just Choice

Our laws are moral documents. They are a reflection of our values and what we prioritize. By passing Measure 118, we align our tax policies with our commitment to fairness and support for all. This measure would reduce childhood poverty by 53%. It would reduce senior poverty by 26%. And it would ensure everyone has a basic income.

Every major religion teaches us to care for those around us. We all have a responsibility to each other. Measure 118 offers a simple but powerful change: by raising the corporate minimum tax rate, we can give every Oregonian a basic income to rely on. This reflects our belief that wealth should be shared more fairly and that our laws should reflect our highest values.

We live in the richest country at the richest time in history, yet many people still struggle to get by. We have the highest rates of childhood poverty among developed nations and shorter lifespans.

Our problem isn't lack of wealth—it's how that wealth is shared. If the minimum wage had kept up with inflation since the 1970s, it would be $25 per hour today. This inequality goes against the moral teachings of every spiritual practice. Our society's agreement to support everyone must be stronger.

It's time to use our prosperity to make sure every Oregonian benefits from the wealth in our state. This measure is a step toward a fairer and more just society.

A vote is like a prayer for the world we want to live in. Voting for Measure 118 is a vote for fairness, compassion, and the belief that a better world is possible.

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

Economic Justice Action Group (EJAG) of the First Unitarian Church of Portland

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Families Need Measure 118

Children and Families are Hurting. We Can Change that Right Now.

Things are bleak for families. Nearly half of parents can't afford an unexpected $500 expense like a car repair or covering hospital costs when someone gets hurt.

Wages have stagnated. Housing costs are so expensive that today, nowhere in the whole country can a parent afford a two bedroom apartment when working full time and getting paid the federal minimum wage.

If minimum wage had increased at the same rate as inflation, it would be $25/hr today. It's no wonder corporate profits have skyrocketed — they are keeping the money instead of paying us, their employees.

Meanwhile, as parents work hard and corporations take money from their pockets, thousands of children are going to bed hungry in Oregon tonight. Thousands.

During the pandemic, the majority of the money from the stimulus checks and the monthly Child Tax Credit payments went to food and basic needs like utilities, diapers, and childcare.

Here's some data:

- Nearly 1 in 10 people in Oregon live below the poverty line. The vast majority of those people are working, but not getting paid enough.
- Oregon Rebate would reduce childhood poverty by 49%.

The poverty line for a family of four is $31,000. With Oregon Rebate, that family of four would receive $6,400 EVERY YEAR.

That's enough to move into a new apartment. Or buy a reliable car or cover after-school care so parents can have peace of mind at work.

Together, we can give children and families the support they need so they aren't struggling to survive, but instead are able to thrive.

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

Income Movement

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

$1,600 for Every Student, Teacher, Parent, and Guardian

Measure 118 Is an Investment in Education and Your Neighbors

Economic security is a proven predictor of student success. Students with food or housing insecurity face a deck stacked against them. Same for educators.

Measure 118 provides $6,400 each year to a family of 4 ($1,600 per individual)

Pre-pandemic, a shocking 38% of Portland Public students were on free/reduced lunch. Fortunately, all students today have free lunch. Your yes vote in November extends that power, creating a transformation for all guardians to decide how to spend, save, or invest $4,800 for a single mom with two students.

At Portland Community College 64% of students experienced food or housing insecurity and 10% were houseless or staying in a hotel, compared with 1% of the general population. PCC tuition is $1,596, matching the rebate. Our highly diverse PCC students with 1-3 jobs face oppressive costs of housing, food, tuition and other basic needs. This substantially limits low income students from earning a college degree and better-paying jobs.

Regardless of whether you have kids in school, it is self-evident that $1,600 more every year helps everyone.

Nobody is saying Yes On Measure 118 fixes all the problems we face, but your YES vote will have an IMMEDIATE IMPACT. Supporting this cash gift is a relief for most of us who are struggling to make ends meet. Ninety lawmakers can patch any concerns in the fine print. They often fast track laws (like the 2012 one day session to favor Nike, defunding schools).

Big business is fighting this with fear and doubt, and as always we encourage you to vote, and vote with your heart.

V**OTE YES! on MEASURE 118**

Pragmatically Support Progress and Not Perfection.

Reduce Poverty, Support Opportunity & Academic Achievement.

Joe Rowe, former PCC professor, Public High School teacher, union organizer and member dating to 1984.

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Nearly Half a Million Oregonians Live in Poverty.

$1,600 to every person will bring 140,000 Oregonians out of poverty!

Vote Yes! on 118

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson declared a War on Poverty, and enacted a series of programs to end poverty.

That was 60 years ago.

Our approach to ending poverty has been an utter failure. Yet, year after year we keep trying the same old programs with the same outcomes - millions continue to live in poverty.

"Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." - Albert Einstein

It's time for change. We have an opportunity in front of us to take everything we learned during the pandemic about the impact of cash on reducing poverty and put it into permanent policy here in Oregon.

We know direct cash works.

It worked with the 2021 Child Tax Credit where $300 per month per child reduced childhood poverty by 46%. Guess what - when the payments stopped, childhood poverty skyrocketed again.

In Alaska, their annual cash payments reduce poverty by roughly 20% each year.

And just like "poverty is a policy choice," reducing poverty and increasing opportunity can be a policy choice too. You have that choice today.

Vote to give every Oregonian $1,600.

Vote to reduce childhood poverty in our state by 49% and overall poverty by 28%.

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

Over $1,600 for every Oregonian, every year
Over $1,600 for every Oregonian, every year
Over $1,600 for every Oregonian, every year
Over $1,600 for every Oregonian, every year
Over $1,600 for every Oregonian, every year

A four-person household will get four rebates or over $6,400 every year
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A four-person household will get four rebates or over $6,400 every year
A four-person household will get four rebates or over $6,400 every year

Make giant corporations start to pay their fair share
Make giant corporations start to pay their fair share
Make giant corporations start to pay their fair share
Make giant corporations start to pay their fair share
Make giant corporations start to pay their fair share

Could you use $1,600?
Could you use $1,600?
Could you use $1,600?
Could you use $1,600?
Could you use $1,600?

Pay yourself first
Pay yourself first
Pay yourself first
Pay yourself first
Pay yourself first
Pay yourself first

Don't leave $1,600 on the table
Don't leave $1,600 on the table
Don't leave $1,600 on the table
Don't leave $1,600 on the table
Don't leave $1,600 on the table
Don't leave $1,600 on the table

Do what's right for you and your family
Do what's right for you and your family
Do what's right for you and your family
Do what's right for you and your family
Do what's right for you and your family

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

From the people, by the people, for the people: Measure 118 is a story of people-designed and people-powered political activism!

We now have a chance to vote Yes! on Measure 118 because of what started as a conversation between friends in Eugene in 2018. The inspiration was the popular slogan "banks got bailed out, we got sold out," and asking the question, "what if the people got bailed out too?"

From there, a super-diverse group of regular people from across the political spectrum, young and old(er), and each an expert in their own life experience started to meet to imagine a plan for a more just Oregon.

We often say that "representation matters," and that cannot be more true than in this case.

When electeds met back in the day to set the minimum corporate tax rate for giant corporations like Comcast, they came up with a tax rate of less than 0.12%! When regular

people were in a room, we decided on a 3% corporate minimum tax (which is still less than the 4.75% to 9.9% that everyday Oregonians pay).

After about 8 months of weekend meetings in coffee shops and community spaces, we arrived at the core of our work: A statewide ballot initiative to first tax giant corporations a little bit more and then rebate the new revenue to all Oregonians. This core concept has not changed over the years.

We tried to qualify for the ballot in both 2020 and 2022, but the pandemic and our lack of funding made that impossible for us.

Finally, we now all have the opportunity to vote Yes! on Measure 118 and get yearly rebates worth over $1,600 per Oregonian (kids count too!).

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

Lonnie Douglas, Eugene

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

Empowering Workers, $1,600 at a time!

At the most basic level, labor unions work on better wages, benefits, and working conditions.

Measure 118 is more economic security and opportunity in the form of $1,600 for every Oregonian, including kids, dependents, and retirees.

But Measure 118 isn't just about the ability to make ends meet more easily — it's also about empowering workers to stand up for their rights and continue the fight for economic and social justice.

A yearly $6,400 strike-fund for every 4-person household

We know that standing up for our rights at work is risky, and the system keeps most of us living paycheck to paycheck making it hard to volunteer, organize, and work towards strengthening our rights at work.

Measure 118 rebates $1,600 a year to every Oregonian, giving workers the financial stability they need to fight for fair wages, better benefits, and safer working conditions. Or, to just quit that bad job on the way to another better one.

That's probably why there's strong opposition to Measure 118. Corporations know that when workers aren't struggling to make ends meet, we have more power. With a bit more breathing room, all workers can better organize, solve problems, and pursue their own goals.

Think of these rebates as a safety net for all workers. A yearly "strike fund" of over $6,400 for every 4-person household to make it easier to stand up for what's right.

Measure 118 levels the playing field between workers and big corporations

Vote YES! on Measure 118 to support workers and keep fighting for economic justice in Oregon.

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

Portland Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)
Eugene-Springfield Solidarity Network (ESSN)
Legal Aid Services of Oregon Workers Union (LASOWU)

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Favor

MEASURE 118: AN INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION & OUR FUTURE

A Rebate of about $1,600 to every Oregon resident each year, would Greatly Benefit Students, Parents, & Others.

For pre-K thru 12 districts throughout Oregon, the greatest predictor of high school graduation is economic security. Recently 38% of students **at Portland Public Schools** qualified for reduced-priced meals and the families of many more struggle with housing, food, and additional insecurities at home. Measure 118 would provide $6,400 to a family of 4 ($1,600 per person), dramatically increasing their ability to cover their living costs.

At Portland Community College (PCC), where enrollment has dropped 47% over the last decade, $1,600 would pay for one full-time term ($1,596). A staggering 64% of PCC students report experiencing food or housing insecurity while 58% attend only part-time (often employed in minimum-wage jobs to survive). Financially unable to expand their higher education (and income) opportunities and pay for basic needs at the same time, many drop out. Oregon's community colleges provide crucial workforce training. Oregon's biggest corporations can afford to fund this Rebate that will benefit themselves and spur economic development statewide.

$1,600 would be **A GAME CHANGER** to everyone living hand-to-mouth. While new tax revenues might be better targeted by elected politicians to benefit only those in greatest need – "means-tested" programs would predictably come at a higher bureaucratic price of implementation. Those deprived of a Rebate could be justifiably angry and with little hope of help. Voter approval now would spell IMMEDIATE RELIEF for struggling students & others weary of political gridlock and harmed by lofty intentions with inadequate results.

VOTE YES! on MEASURE 118

Pragmatically Support Progress and Not only Perfection.

Reduce Poverty in Oregon & Benefit Students.

STATEMENT BY: Michael Sonnleitner, Ph.D.,
Political Science Instructor & former PCC Trustee (Zone 3).

https://www.yesonmeasure118.com/

(This information furnished by Antonio Gisbert, Vote Yes! On 118.)

Argument in Opposition

Measure 118 is bad for Oregon Farmers and Families

Oregon Farm Bureau is the state's largest agricultural organization representing over 6,600 farm and ranch families and a total membership of over 60,000. Our members work and live in all 36 of Oregon's counties. We're accustomed to taxes and regulations, but never have we seen a tax as unfair and damaging to Oregon's family farmers and ranchers as Measure 118.

Here's why we strongly oppose Measure 118:

Measure 118 taxes gross sales, not profits

Many Oregon farm families operate on very thin profit margins. Measure 118 would tax our total sales and increase costs for the electricity, equipment, and fuel it takes to produce food, even when we have a small profit or are losing money. This is simply unfair and would burden hard working men and women unlike what occurs in any other state.

96% of Oregon farms and ranches are family-owned and operated. Crops produced by farmers here are sold around the world. Measure 118's giant tax hike would put our family farms at a competitive disadvantage.

Measure 118 increases food costs for consumers, from our farms to your tables

Measure 118 isn't just bad for Oregon family farmers and ranchers. It's harmful to all Oregonians. That's because most of this tax would be paid by consumers in the form of higher prices on everyday items such as gasoline, medicine, utilities and even food.

The tax would be assessed at each step in the production process. By the time a product has gone from the farm to the consumer, it will have been taxed multiple times, increasing its cost. And there are no exemptions for everyday essentials.

Don't hurt Oregon agriculture. Please vote NO on Measure 118.

Oregon Farm Bureau

(This information furnished by Greg Addington, Executive Director, Oregon Farm Bureau.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges NO on Measure 118

7 truly absurd secrets about Measure 118

#1. It taxes the living to give tax cash rebates to dead people (just for living 1 day in Oregon).

#2. It takes $$ from the general fund, which funds PRISONS, and gives it away to criminals in PRISON in the form of cash rebates.

#3. The tax doesn't pay for itself, so it takes away money from schools, police, wildfire funding, and health care.

#4. Pro-Measure 118 activists say it will reduce poverty, but handing out $750 - $1,600 cash to the homeless, as Oregon is surrounded by two top 10 homeless states (California, Washington) will surely attract thousands to move here to pick up a free $1,600 check (along with the free-crack pipes, free tents, free tarps, free clothes). Some of America's biggest homeless populations are just miles from Oregon.

#5. Some Oregon students studying abroad may not get the rebate check while foreign students studying for a single term in Oregon will get cash -- and may get it when they have returned home and spend their Oregon cash abroad. So, Oregon may be exporting cash out-of-state.

#6. Since Oregon is a top addiction state, dumping $1,600 cash on tens of thousands of addicts may be just the thing that ends up killing them.

#7. Did we mention that Measure 118 gives cash rebates to every rapist, tax cheat, wife beater, gang leader in prison? Every Oregon resident gets a rebate.

Visit us on our daily political news website
OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

Our family-owned stores oppose Measure 118

Since 1975, my family has been proud to provide high quality, locally produced food to people in and around Portland. Our three Zupan's Markets locations provide jobs, support charitable work and connect Oregon farmers and producers to people eager to support local businesses.

By imposing the largest tax increase in Oregon history, Measure 118 would create enormous challenges for our business, our associates and the many Oregon producers who we purchase products from.

Measure 118 would impose a $6.8 Billion annual tax on sales that would affect all Oregonians; and not in a good way.

The 3% tax would apply directly to businesses with more than $25 million per year in Oregon sales. But that tax would be passed on to those businesses' customers, which would include individuals as well as businesses like Zupan's Markets.

The cost of doing business in Oregon would rise, whether you're a blueberry farmer or a family-owned market. Some businesses would not survive, and others would have no choice but to pass along their increased costs. **Measure 118 contradicts Oregon's proud tradition of supporting small and locally owned businesses.**

Though Measure 118's California backers claim that it would help lower-income Oregonians, its costly tax would raise prices of basic necessities for all Oregonians, regardless of their income. **It contains no exemption for food, medicine, clothing and other things Oregonians need just to survive.**

Measure 118 is just bad policy. It couldn't be better designed to hurt the little guy, whether that's a family-owned business, a local farmer or a family struggling to make ends meet in an already expensive state.

Please join us in voting NO on 118.

(This information furnished by Mia Noren, on behalf of the Northwest Grocery Retail Association.)

Argument in Opposition

Please join us in voting NO on Measure 118.

Duckwall Fruit is a generational, family-owned business. Many of the orchardists who supply us with produce are also family-owned businesses. These growers, along with our employees and the entire Duckwall Fruit family, are committed to sharing Oregon's quality products around the world.

Measure 118 would make that harder to do. Measure 118 is not a corporate income tax. It's a tax on sales that applies even if our business has low profit margins or loses money. It's also a tax that can compound at multiple stages of the supply chain, which only **ends up costing everyone more and making businesses like ours less competitive.**

In addition to the tax, our other costs will rise for one simple reason: Like everyone else in Oregon, we buy supplies and services from companies that would be taxed directly. We'll end up paying more for equipment, fuel, insurance, and a host of other things as a result. This will directly hurt our growers.

The biggest funders who brought Measure 118 to us Oregonians are not from Oregon, and they don't have to pay

this tax. They also don't have to deal with the repercussions, such as even **higher inflation, and even more expensive groceries and other necessities.**

Please join us in voting NO on Measure 118.

(This information furnished by Sara Duckwall, Duckwall Fruit.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregonians for Food & Shelter urges NO on Measure 118

Oregonians for Food & Shelter is a non-profit coalition of farmers, ranchers, foresters, and other natural resource industry professionals. Our members grow food and trees that support Oregon families. We promote science-based policy, innovation, and stewardship to ensure food and fiber security in Oregon and beyond. At our core, we represent communities of working Oregonians – the true environmental stewards of our farms, forests, and communities.

Measure 118 would be bad not only for our members, but for all Oregonians.

According to Oregon's nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office, **Measure 118 would implement a massive $6.8 Billion tax on sales in Oregon**. It would be the largest tax increase in Oregon history, shouldered by Oregon businesses and consumers statewide.

As a 3% tax on Oregon sales over $25 million per year, it may appear to only hurt large businesses. But that's not true. **Measure 118's costs would be passed to the purchaser**, whether that's another business or an individual. And the tax would apply to every sales transaction, which means an Oregon-made product might be taxed multiple times as it moves from manufacturer through distributor, retailer, and ultimately the consumer. That makes **Measure 118 more costly than a traditional sales tax.**

And because Measure 118 provides no exemptions, **prices would go up for everything Oregonians buy, including food, clothing, energy, and housing.** The increases would occur at a time when consumers are already reeling from high inflation and struggling to keep pace.

The out-of-state funders of Measure 118 are selling it as a tax on big businesses that will deliver "free money" to Oregonians. But **this money is not free**.

The only thing Measure 118 would deliver is a huge and costly tax on sales in Oregon, and even higher prices for basic goods and services, including food and fiber. Please vote NO.

Katie Murray, Executive Director, Oregonians for Food & Shelter

(This information furnished by Diann Washburn, on behalf of Katie Murray.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon Beverage Alliance urges NO on Measure 118

The Oregon Beverage Alliance is made up of local brewers, winemakers, cidermakers, distillers and their supply and hospitality partners. Oregon is home to 300 breweries, 1,000 wineries, 1,400 vineyards, 70 cideries, 100 distilleries, 73 distributors and 10,000 restaurants, creating hundreds of thousands of good-paying jobs and more than $17 billion a year in economic activity for the state. Beer, wine, cider and spirits are an essential part of Oregon's economy and identity. With the highest cost increases in generations and record closures, raising taxes would only make it harder for these local businesses to survive.

Measure 118 comes at a time when our sector is already facing major challenges. Between inflation on the cost of ingredients, supply chain issues, employee shortages, natural disasters and a two-year pandemic, these local businesses need the support of lawmakers and the public to survive. The last thing any local business needs are tax increases. **Measure 118 would make things worse by implementing the largest tax increase in Oregon history.** This $6.8 billion tax on sales would add a new 3% tax at every stage of the production process – making it far more costly than a traditional sales tax.

Measure 118 would force breweries, wineries, cideries and distilleries to increase prices, move out of state or shutter entirely – Oregon is already one of the most expensive places to do business but we're here investing in our communities and creating jobs because we care.

Overall, 74% of Oregonians oppose increasing taxes on beer, wine, cider and spirits, according to a widely cited Patinkin Research Strategies poll. Oregon is known around the world for these products. To continue to serve our communities, Oregon's breweries, wineries, cideries, distilleries, restaurants and bars need certainty and stability in the tax code. And Oregonians don't need higher prices on beverages they enjoy in moderation to mark occasions.

Please join us in voting NO on Measure 118.

(This information furnished by Erik Lukens, on behalf of the Oregon Beverage Alliance.)

Argument in Opposition

Manufacturing Council of Oregon Opposes Measure 118

In opposing Measure 118, I wear two hats: I am a business owner and I chair the Manufacturing Council of Oregon, which represents manufacturers of all sizes across the state. If Measure 118 passes, I can say with confidence that **the cost of living in Oregon will go up.**

Measure 118 would impose the largest tax increase of any kind in Oregon history. The $6.8 Billion tax burden generated every year would be paid by companies subject to the tax, but ultimately all Oregonians would pay for this.

Measure 118's out-of-state backers want us to believe that the tax would be paid only by companies with more than $25 million per year in Oregon sales. But **taxes on sales are inevitably passed on to consumers like you, me, and my small businesses.**

Measure 118 is even more costly than a traditional sales tax. That's because it could tax Oregon sales at every stage of a product's lifecycle and supply chain, which begins with raw materials and ends with the consumer. A product might be taxed several times before the end user buys it.

Oregon's manufacturers provide high-paying jobs, but **Measure 118 would make us less competitive and put some of us out of business.** Many manufacturers would not be able to pass along these increased costs because they compete against manufacturers in other states and countries who would not be affected by Measure 118's massive tax. Many Oregon manufacturers would have to absorb higher costs caused by the tax regardless of their profitability and some will either close or move out of state.

If Oregon voters value affordability, a healthy Oregon economy and good jobs, they should join me and vote NO on Measure 118.

Jim Fitzhenry

Chair, Manufacturing Council of Oregon

Co-Owner, Roy Manufacturing and Profile Laser

(This information furnished by Angela Wilhelms, on behalf of Jim Fitzhenry.)

Argument in Opposition

Measure 118 would hurt family-owned businesses like mine.

I am the president of Miles Fiberglass & Composites, a family-owned company that my father started in 1963. For more than 60 years, our company has provided good jobs and high-quality work. About 60 people now work at our facility in Clackamas.

All of us at Miles Fiberglass are proud of what we do. But Measure 118 would make our work much more difficult.

Measure 118 would create a 3% tax on sales over $25 million annually. **Our company isn't big enough to pay the tax directly. But it would hurt us – and all other Oregon businesses – regardless.**

Measure 118 would increase the cost of the things we use, which include fiberglass, resins, coloring agents, energy, cleaning supplies, office supplies, and so on. If we could, we'd have no choice but to pass along some of those added costs to our customers.

But we can't always pass along costs. Miles Fiberglass does a lot of contract work for businesses that could simply use other vendors. If we raised prices, we'd create an incentive for our customers to look for vendors in lower-cost states. Our business would suffer, and our ability to maintain employment would as well.

If Measure 118 passes, it would hurt many, many companies in Oregon in similar ways. Some will adjust better than others, but all of them will see their competitiveness decline. Many will hire fewer people and look for opportunities to invest outside of Oregon.

Oregon has a proud tradition of family-owned businesses. Some of them are on their fifth or even sixth generation of family leadership. **Measure 118 would threaten that tradition for many companies like mine.**

Please join me in voting NO.

(This information furnished by Paloma Sparks, on behalf of Lori Olund.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon Small Business Association Urges NO on Measure 118

Look at the shops that have closed since COVID.

Oregon's oldest small businesses have closed

- Knudtson's Jewelers, Roseburg, closed after 134 years
- LaRog Brothers closed after 113 years
- Oregon's own Knecht's Auto Parts closed after 75 years
- Portland's oldest sports bar, Claudia's, closed after 60 years
- Oregon's oldest Jewish deli, Kornblatt's, closed

Oregon's famous shops have closed

- Oregon's award-winning JaCiva's Chocolates closed
- Nick's Italian Cafe (James Beard Award) closed
- Oregon grocery start-up Green Zebra closed all stores

Entire industries are dying

- Oregon has lost nearly 900 farms since Covid
- More breweries closed than opened in 2024
- 5 lumber mills closed in 2024

Under Measure 118, these headlines will only get worse.

Not your average tax on sales.

Under Measure 118, everything you buy at the store will have already been taxed several times, hurting small businesses and working families struggling to make ends meet because of high prices.

Hurts small businesses and workers.

Oregon's small businesses are the backbone of our economy. Most small businesses won't pay the tax, but they will have to deal with its impact: *increased prices for us and our employees.*

This tax hurts those who are struggling

This tax will likely raise the price of essential items like food, gas, and everyday purchase. It makes it harder for those on fixed income and for whom have to manage every cent to stay ahead.

VOTE NO on Measure 118!

(This information furnished by TJ Reilly, Oregon Small Business Association.)

Argument in Opposition

Family-Owned Convenience Store Chain Opposes Measure 118

Dari Mart is all about local. Our dairy cows are raised locally on Lochmead Farms, and our milk and ice cream products are processed at Lochmead Dairy. Keeping it local means maintaining a presence in our community and sharing our locally sourced products with consumers.

Measure 118 concerns us because of its negative local impacts on our community and our customers.

We've been located in the South Willamette Valley for more than 60 years. That's where our family dairy farm started, and that's where we built our milk and ice cream processing facility. But Measure 118 doesn't recognize the benefits of keeping it local. Instead, it would substantially raise our costs, from the feed we purchase for our cows, to the ingredients we use in our ice cream, to the final products that are sold at our Dari Mart Stores and fuel stations.

Dari Mart is an integrated business. Under Measure 118, the products we sell will have been taxed multiple times before they reach consumers. In addition to our homegrown dairy products, the products we sell come from food or beverage manufacturers and distributors that Measure 118 would also tax. When their costs rise, the prices they charge us go up. That means the prices our customers pay would also go up as much as 12% in many cases. **It's a tax on a tax.**

Its promoters say Measure 118 would only impact large corporations, but that's false. Convenience stores, like Dari Mart, operate on paper-thin margins. The flawed design of Measure 118 taxes sales, not profits, and would put us at a substantial competitive disadvantage.

We're a neighborhood store, and Measure 118 would hurt our business and raise the prices our customers pay. Everyone in our community will be hurt by Measure 118 when prices rise for groceries, gas and other everyday essentials.

Please join us in voting NO on Measure 118.

Dari Mart Stores

(This information furnished by Kurt Straube, Dari Mart Stores.)

Argument in Opposition

Vote **NO** on Measure 118: Protect Oregon's Communities of Color

The Coalition of Communities of Color, an alliance of culturally specific community-based organizations, strongly urges a **NO vote on Measure 118**. This poorly designed measure **puts our communities at risk**—if passed, it will reduce our state's ability to fund critical programs and services.

Public investments in social services, education, health, and more are essential to a thriving state. But Measure 118 would divert vitally needed funds from the state's general fund, which is the lifeline for the social services that are critical for the health and well-being of Oregon families. Both our

schools and programs that provide healthcare, housing, and other essential services would likely be underfunded, limiting access to resources that are vital for our communities, particularly communities of color who have been under-resourced. These are the very programs that help level the playing field and offer a pathway to self-determination and prosperity. On top of reducing resources to fund programs, with Measure 118, vulnerable families receiving federal assistance would be at risk of seeing their benefits reduced or removed entirely.

At the Coalition of Communities of Color, we work to address the socioeconomic disparities and institutional racism that impact our families and communities. We believe in building the capacity of communities of color to advance policy agendas that support justice and equity and do not cause harm to our basic programs that help all Oregonians thrive. Measure 118 runs counter to our goals as it puts this at risk.

Please vote **NO** on Measure 118.

(This information furnished by Marcus C. Mundy, Coalition of Communities of Color.)

Argument in Opposition

County Commissioners Across Oregon Urge NO on Measure 118!

We represent blue and red counties, and urban and rural counties. We have varied different positions on issues facing our communities. But one thing we are united on is our **opposition to Measure 118.**

Measure 118 is a tax on the sale of goods and services that will result higher prices for all consumers. **That means higher prices for you and us as individuals, for the small businesses some of us own, and even for the local governments we operate.**

ECOnorthwest, a respected economic analysis firm based in Oregon, estimates that **state and local governments will see their own costs go up by an estimated $630 million** annually because of Measure 118. That's $630 million out the door without any increase or improvement to services, without any benefit to Oregonians or communities across the state.

Measure 118 would take Oregon in the wrong direction, forcing local governments, small businesses and citizens to pay more for everyday goods and services. **Food, fuel, insurance, medicine and so many other things will cost more.** After all, free money is never free.

Why is Measure 118 so expensive? It taxes sales in Oregon not just once, but at every step of the production process that happens in our state. It creates a tax on a tax, potentially multiple times over.

Beyond that, it creates a need for more bureaucracy to administer the program, investigate fraud and determine how this thing will work.

We urge you to learn more at **NOonMeasure118.com** and join us in voting NO on this costly, flawed measure.

County Commissioners:

Kevin Cameron, Marion County

Tim Freeman, Douglas County

Jeremy Gordon, Polk County

Craig Pope, Polk County

Todd Nash, Wallowa County

Lianne Thompson, Clatsop County

Tony DeBone, Deschutes County

John Sweet, Coos County

Will Tucker, Linn County

Margaret Magruter, Columbia County

(This information furnished by Kevin Cameron.)

Argument in Opposition

The Black Business Association of Oregon Opposes Measure 118

The Black Business Association of Oregon (BBAO) is an economic development organization that strives to achieve economic equity that is sustainable and lasting in the state of Oregon. Our association is proud to represent businesses of all sizes and in a wide variety of industries.

Measure 118 will be harmful for the businesses we serve across the state because it taxes sales, not income or profits. This makes it extremely challenging for businesses to survive. In addition, **the domino effect of this measure will increase prices on consumer goods, which will have a dramatic impact on the businesses and the communities we serve**.

Our goal is to help our members thrive so they can provide jobs and strengthen communities. **Measure 118 will hinder our goal and limit the opportunity for all businesses to gain economic prosperity.**

We urge voters to say "NO" to Measure 118.

(This information furnished by Angela Wilhelms, on behalf of the Black Business Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon Wine Council opposes Measure 118

The Oregon Wine Council is firmly opposed to Measure 118, as it threatens the well-being of Oregon's beautiful vineyards, the production of artisanal local wines, and the thousands of jobs directly and indirectly supported by our industry.

Oregon consumers should oppose the measure just as strongly. **It would raise the cost of an Oregon product beloved by Oregonians.**

Most of Oregon's wineries generate less than $25 million in sales annually and would not directly pay the tax themselves. However, their suppliers, distributors, and retailers certainly would. So would the independent grape growers upon which many wine producers rely. They would pay more for fuel, fertilizer, equipment, and other things they need to grow fruit.

By the time a bottle of wine found its way into a customer's shopping cart, it might have been subjected to several levels of taxation because of Measure 118. That's because the measure, unlike a typical sales tax, would impose a tax at every stage of production in Oregon, beginning with the fuel used by a grape grower and ending with the sale by a grocery store. **The measure would impose taxes upon taxes upon taxes that would ultimately be paid by Oregonians.**

The measure also would erode the competitiveness of an iconic Oregon industry. We are a small but mighty wine state, producing 1% of the United States's wine production but some of the highest quality in the country. Oregon wines regularly win over 20% of the Wine Spectator's Top 100 Wines in the United States. Your local wineries would be unable to pass along higher tax costs resulting from this measure, and some would inevitably close.

Measure 118 is a costly experiment funded by pro-tax advocates from out-of-state.

Oregonians who value affordable food, family businesses, and Oregon businesses should oppose it.

(This information furnished by Fawn Barrie.)

Argument in Opposition

Measure 118 would hurt Oregon businesses, employees

Oregon Business & Industry represents more than 1,600 businesses in Oregon, over 80% of which are small businesses. Measure 118's out-of-state funders want Oregonians to believe that the measure would affect only the large corporations that would pay the tax on sales directly.

OBI members know that this is false. So do Oregonians.

Measure 118 would increase costs significantly for ALL Oregon businesses, for their employees, and for everyone else. As a result, operating a business in Oregon would become much more difficult. So would simply living here. The measure – **the largest tax increase in state history** – would drive up the cost of food, fuel, medicine, clothing and everything else Oregonians buy.

Oregon's businesses are the foundation of the state's prosperity. They create jobs, generate tax revenue and support other businesses. Measure 118 would erode this foundation by taxing sales – not income or profits. **Businesses would pay this tax even when operating at a loss.**

The cost of operating a business in Oregon is already high. As a result, it can be difficult for Oregon businesses to compete with businesses elsewhere. Measure 118 would further erode our competitiveness.

Measure 118 would affect Oregon families just as dramatically. Because many commercial transactions occur during a product's life cycle, something as basic as a quart of ice cream could be taxed multiple times before a cashier rings it up. **The multiple layers of taxation would increase costs more dramatically than a traditional sales tax.**

Measure 118's backers dangle "free money" in the hope that Oregonians will fail to consider the $6.8 Billion annual tax's inflationary effects. But Oregonians are smarter than that. We know that "free" money is never free.

Please join us in voting NO.

Oregon Business & Industry Association

(This information furnished by Angela Wilhelms, President, Oregon Business & Industry.)

Argument in Opposition

It is our honor to represent Oregonians in the state legislature. We often face difficult decisions, including balancing the budget and ensuring your tax dollars deliver the services you expect. The decision on Measure 118, however, is not difficult. This measure will make life more expensive for families and cause major cuts to services Oregonians rely on. If you want our state to be affordable, safe, and healthy, please join us in voting no.

As leaders of the legislative committees responsible for revenue and spending, we cannot let out-of-state interests push bad public policy onto Oregonians.

While well-intentioned, Measure 118 is a costly proposal with significant consequences for Oregonians and the state's budget. The nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office (LRO) reported that Measure 118 could create a three billion dollar hole in the state's General Fund – almost ten percent of what we have to fund critical services like addiction services and mental health treatment, emergency response, housing, and more.

Measure 118 would increase prices on goods and services including groceries, gas, housing and even medicine. LRO also reported that Measure 118 would reduce growth in wages, income, jobs, and population. Finally, Measure 118 would create an administrative burden as the state figures out who is eligible and how to estimate rebates, process payments, and prevent fraud. It's also likely that Measure 118 would be tied up in litigation for years.

None of this is helpful.

We believe Oregon needs to have a serious conversation about making sure Oregonians have enough money in their pockets and about the state's overall tax structure. We're ready to lead robust, transparent, and difficult discussions about taxes and our ability to meet long-term funding needs.

We urge Oregonians to study the proposal, learn about its costly implications, and join us in voting no.

Senator Kate Lieber and Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chairs, Joint Ways & Means Committee

Senator Mark Meek, Chair, Senate Revenue Committee

Representative Nancy Nathanson, Chair, House Revenue Committee

(This information furnished by Kate Lieber, State Senator.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayer Association of Oregon urges a NO vote on Measure 118.

6 Reasons to Reject Measure 118:

1. Taxes Are Already Too High!

The nonpartisan Tax Foundation found that Oregon has one of the highest business tax burdens in the country. Another report found that Oregonians spend more money on taxes than 48 other states. Measure 118 would make it worse!

2. It's Bankrolled by a California Cypto Billionaire!

Los Angeles cryptocurrency billionaire Josh Jones has already personally given over HALF A MILLION dollars to increase your taxes by funding Measure 118. But he himself won't pay a penny more under Measure 118. Why does he want to use Oregonians as his tax guinea pig?

3. Worse Than a Sales Tax: Costing YOU more!

Measure 118 would tax every step of the supply chain. Farm to processor? Taxed! Processor to packaging? Taxed! Packaging to distributor? Taxed! Distributor to grocery store? Taxed! Grocery store to you? TAXED! This would jack up healthcare costs, the price at the pump, and everyday essentials.

4. A Blank Check for Politicians!

Measure 118 doesn't guarantee any Oregonian gets a single penny. Instead, Measure 118 creates a slush fund that politicians could redirect to use for themselves whenever they want.

5. Your Tax Dollars to Violent Criminals!

Because Measure 118 applies to any Oregon resident, it would, in effect, send $750 - $1,600 checks to rapists, murderers, and even kidnappers serving time in prison for their heinous crimes.

6. Inviting More Homeless to Oregon!

By offering "free" money to every Oregon resident, we will be inviting more homeless to come live on our streets!

Visit us on our daily political news website OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years.

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

HOUSING WILL BE EVEN MORE EXPENSIVE IF MEASURE 118 PASSES.

Oregon's housing crisis is our state's highest priority—but this measure will make it worse. We must vote no to protect Oregonians from even higher housing costs.

Here's why Measure 118 is so bad for housing and families:

- **Measure 118 taxes sales, not profits.** This 3% tax could be levied every single time a product is sold in Oregon—even from business to business. This means that every board, every window, every nail could be taxed 3%. Not just once: but every time a product changes hands before

construction is complete. That's as much as five times in the housing industry!

- **This is an exponential tax, not a regular sales tax.** Most sales taxes are paid by consumers once at the end of a product's life cycle. Instead, Measure 118 levies a 3% tax at every step of the distribution chain in Oregon, creating taxes on taxes on taxes, and causing an exponential increase in housing costs.
- **Affordable homebuilders will lose**. Even businesses that provide housing to low-income families at low profit margins will have to pay, making it even more difficult for projects to pencil.
- **Businesses losing money still have to pay.** Measure 118 requires all businesses, even ones losing money, to pay the tax. Because this is a tax on sales not profits. This is the difference between builders staying afloat and going under. We need MORE homebuilding companies, not fewer, to bring down housing costs.
- **Housing will be more expensive.** Home builders already pay hefty fees and costs—sometimes adding as much as 40% to the cost of a home. If Measure 118 passes, expect even higher costs, making it harder to provide affordable homes.

For these reasons, Oregon Home Builders Association has joined the coalition against Measure 118. Learn more at NOonMeasure118.com, join us in voting **NO on Measure 118.**

(This information furnished by JODI L HACK, On behalf of Oregon Home Builders Association.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon Retail Council urges NO on Measure 118

Oregon retailers employ more than 425,000 people and contribute more than $27 billion to the state's economy. Retail is a crucial part of everyday lives, serving people across the state with goods from Oregon and beyond. Large and small retailers throughout Oregon would see costs increase significantly if Measure 118 passes.

The millions of Oregonians who rely on retail would see prices increase, too.

Measure 118 is a damaging and costly tax on sales. It would apply a 3% tax on a company's annual total sales in Oregon over $25 million. $25 million may sound like a big number, but it's not.

This tax would apply directly to retailers, increasing the prices of everything they sell, including food, clothing, home goods, toiletries, toys, fuel and medicine.

While Oregon's independent and main street retailers might not pay the tax directly, the costs of many things they buy would rise, and these costs would ultimately get passed to consumers. That could be inventory, but it also could be commercial rent, office supplies, electricity to power the store or even internet service to run a payment system.

Ultimately these costs are paid by customers, whether the customer is an individual or a small business. And they come at a terrible time as Oregonians have struggled with rising inflation. It's already expensive to run a business in Oregon, and most retailers operate on very low margins.

The out-of-state backers who brought us Measure 118 are selling the idea of "free money." But Oregonians are smart enough not to buy it. After all, it's Oregonians who would end up paying for this nearly $7 Billion annual tax.

The Oregon Retail Council urges Oregonians to learn more at NOonMeasure118.com and vote NO.

(This information furnished by Erik Lukens, on behalf of the Oregon Retail Council.)

Argument in Opposition

Measure 118 will cost you money. That is an inescapable logical result. The rebates being promied to taxpayers come directly from what is essentially a sales tax on medium to large size businesses – which consumers will have to pay.

Those who think they can fool taxpayers pretend that taxes on gross receipts are not a sales tax. It is, however, essentially a sales tax.

Currently at 0.57%, the corporate gross receipts tax is charged on the gross receipts of most businesses in Oregon with a total gross income of more than $1 million. They must pay the tax whether they make a profit or not. This includes almost every single company you do business with. Each company must simply pass the cost on to you. Otherwise, they would go out of business. Nobody can afford to pay to work! When costs go up 0.57%, consumers must pay that 0.57%.

Raising the tax to 3% will raise the cost of items you purchase by at least 3%. It will be more than 3% because suppliers of the stores you purchase from must pay a gross tax of 3% too if they are in Oregon. This means the tax will compound and any supplier that can will move out of the state. When companies move away, employment also decreases.

The money being promised to each voter will not cover the voter's increased cost. You will pay more each year than you do now.

This is a bad deal being advertised using communist propaganda. They are promising to tax the rich and distribute the money to voters. In reality, voters will pay the taxes and lose overall.

Please Vote NO on measure 118.

Noah Robinson, PhD
State Senate Candidate, District 2

(This information furnished by Noah Robinson, Noah Robinson for Oregon Senate.)

Argument in Opposition

Retired teacher and senior advocate says NO to Measure 118

I am a retired teacher who remains an active advocate for teachers, schools and students as a member of OEA-Retired, the Oregon Education Association's retired teacher organization. I have also been an advocate for the rights and wellbeing of seniors through volunteer work with multiple organizations. I have taken a close look at Measure 118 and here is why I will be voting NO:

Measure 118 would take money away from students, teachers and schools

According to a report by the nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office, Measure 118 would redirect billions of dollars out of the state's general fund that otherwise would be available to **empower educators to help students succeed through more teacher positions, smaller class sizes, and safe and modern schools**.

Measure 118 would increase the cost of learning

By creating a costly new 3% tax on sales at every step in the production and selling process in Oregon, Measure 118 would increase prices for everything from textbooks to pencils. This would demand more money from school district budgets, would cost teachers more who pay out of their own pocket for the classroom, and would cost Oregon families more for school supplies, clothing and other necessities.

Measure 118 is bad for seniors

Regressive taxes like Measure 118 often hurt senior citizens and those on fixed incomes the most. Measure 118 would raise the costs of groceries, housing, utilities, gas, insurance and more.

A typical Oregon household spends $11,000 more each year to maintain the same standard of living they had in 2021. Measure 118 would increase costs even further creating hardship for Oregon's seniors.

Say NO to Measure 118

Measure 118 is a threat to Oregon's public education future and will hurt our senior citizens. Join me in voting NO on measure 118.

Ray Johnson

Member, OEA-Retired

Former Member, Elders in Action Commission

(This information furnished by Erik Lukens, on behalf of Ray Johnson, OEA-Retired.)

Argument in Opposition

Harry & David Urges a NO vote on Measure 118

Harry & David has been a mainstay of Southern Oregon since 1934, selling pears and specialty food products nationwide, and we are proud to celebrate the company's 90th anniversary this year. Our company has survived everything from economic downturns to full-blown recessions. Through it all, our commitment to Oregon hasn't wavered, and today we employ a large workforce in the Rogue Valley, ranging from general labor positions to executive leaders in our community.

Measure 118 puts Oregon-based companies and suppliers at a competitive disadvantage. For a company like Harry & David, this will impact jobs located here in Oregon and increase the cost of our products, resulting in higher prices for Oregon consumers.

In its 90 years as an Oregon business, Harry & David has never faced a tax proposal as costly and damaging as Measure 118. It's a tax on sales, not profits. That means that even businesses making little or no profit would still have to pay. That's arbitrary and unfair, and will harm Oregon farms and businesses.

Our gourmet gifts are filled with a variety of Oregon products from many suppliers. Each step in the creation of these gifts in Oregon could be taxed at 3%. Economists in the nonpartisan Oregon Legislative Revenue Office refer to this as "tax pyramiding."

Measure 118 is costly, unfair, and damaging to Oregon businesses and consumers. We urge you to vote NO.

(This information furnished by Edward E. Ford, III, Senior Vice President of Harry and David, LLC.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges NO on Measure 118

Every rapist

Every murderer

Every felon

Every child molester

Every wife beater

Every I.D. thief

Every car thief

Every gang leader

Every drug dealer

Every tax cheat

... who is in prison in Oregon will get a rebate.

Measure 118 gives every resident a free rebate check, which **includes every Oregon prisoner**.

Here is the text of Measure 118; *"Section 2. The Oregon Rebate. (1) The increase in corporate minimum tax revenue attributable to Section 1 of this 2024 Act shall be used to provide an equal rebate to each individual, as defined in ORS 316.022, who has resided in this state in the aggregate more than 200 days of the eligibility year."*

Criminals will get their rebate check just for residing in Oregon for more than 200 days.

They will get a rebate check just like they got a federal COVID stimulus check.

The idea that we are raising taxes on businesses and taking existing revenue schools, public safety, housing, and forest management to reward virtually every violent felon in Oregon is **ridiculous, reckless, and immoral.**

Stop the cash dump on Oregon's criminals – NO ON MEASURE 118!

Visit us on our daily political news website
OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

MEASURE 118 THREATENS YOUR LOCAL PHARMACY

Oregon's pharmacy industry is on the brink of collapse. Our state ranks second to last in retail pharmacies per capita, with only Alaska faring worse. From 2008 to 2022, the number of pharmacies in Oregon plummeted from 681 to 499. Last year alone, 36 pharmacies closed, with expected closures in 2024 on pace to beat that number—most of them being independent pharmacies.

PHARMACIES ARE CRITICAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Pharmacists are Oregon's most accessible health care providers, interacting with patients more frequently than physicians. They offer medication management, vaccines, health advice, and more.

MEASURE 118 WILL FORCE MORE PHARMACIES TO CLOSE

Measure 118 imposes a 3% tax on sales at every stage of production and sale in Oregon, with no exemptions for medicine or other healthcare products we provide. Many pharmacies already operate at a loss due to inadequate reimbursements and excessive fees from Pharmacy Benefit Managers on the prescriptions they fill.

This tax will further increase costs on everything in our stores, from prescription medications to over-the-counter items like Tylenol. National chains, which will be directly taxed by Measure 118, are already shutting down locations across Oregon, and Measure 118 could drive them out of the Oregon retail pharmacy business altogether.

MEASURE 118 WILL CREATE MORE AND LARGER PHARMACY DESERTS – REDUCING ACCESS TO LIFE-SAVING MEDICINES

In rural Oregon, some pharmacies are the only option for hundreds of square miles, and many patients already drive an hour or more for prescriptions. Measure 118 will force more closures, expanding pharmacy deserts and making it harder for people to access life-saving medications. Surviving pharmacies will face additional burdens, leading to longer wait times and higher costs for patients.

Do not increase the burden on your community's pharmacy, PLEASE VOTE NO ON MEASURE 118!

(This information furnished by Paloma Sparks, on behalf of Oregon State Pharmacy Association.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon Labor Unions Oppose Measure 118

Oregon unions represent hundreds of thousands of Oregonians who clock in everyday to make Oregon run. We build power for working people and fight for a fair and just economy for all. We are nurses, firefighters, educators, school employees, grocery workers, construction workers, steelworkers, and more.

Measure 118 will hurt working families.

We urge a NO vote.

"Measure 118 will hurt firefighters and other frontline workers by reducing available public safety funds in state, county and municipal budgets."
– Oregon State Fire Fighters Council

"Measure 118 will ultimately take an incredibly harmful toll on the public services that Oregonians rely on: from draining resources to maintain and improve our roads and public infrastructure, to defunding schools and the staff that support students, to disinvesting in critical public safety programs, Measure 118 will hurt working families across the state."
– Oregon AFL-CIO

"Measure 118 will increase the cost of construction significantly by raising the price of building materials. Higher construction costs means fewer projects, resulting in Union job loss and mass layoffs in the skilled trades and more expensive housing for a state in real need of expanded affordable housing inventory."

– Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council

"Measure 118 will divert critical resources away from public safety, healthcare, and education to create a new handout that would even go to the wealthiest Oregonians. Reducing the state budget by $1 Billion to fund this risky social experiment is a terrible deal for Oregon and will endanger critical state services that support our most vulnerable communities and help keep our state moving forward."

– NW Oregon Labor Council

Join Oregon's workers and VOTE NO ON MEASURE 118

Measure 118 is also opposed by:

Oregon AFSCME

Oregon Education Association

Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association

SEIU Oregon

Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors, Oregon and SW Washington

United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555/UFCW Local 555

(This information furnished by Erik Lukens, on behalf of the above-listed labor unions.)

Argument in Opposition

Measure 118 – Hidden Sales Tax on Everyday Items like

Groceries, Prescriptions, Housing Goods and Clothing

GROCERY SHOPPERS SHOULD VOTE NO ON MEASURE 118

As the State's leading voice for local, family-owned and employee-owned grocery retail stores we urge your NO vote on Measure 118.

Measure 118 is a gross sales tax, meaning sales are taxed at multiple levels. Essentially, a grocery or food manufacturer in Oregon is taxed, a distributor or direct seller is taxed, and the retailer is also taxed. All adding up to more costs for grocery shoppers.

While Measure 118 will affect all businesses in Oregon, grocery retailers and suppliers will be hit hardest. Oregon's nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office found that the share of taxes paid by wholesale and retail would increase from 29% to 41%!

Measure 118 introduces an unprecedented, hidden sales tax in Oregon bypassing traditional exemptions for essential goods (like groceries!). Despite voters consistently rejecting sales taxes, proponents are attempting to introduce a sales tax that will be stacked on a product from the farm to the truck to the supplier to the store.

As fuel, labor, and all costs continue to rise, Measure 118—the largest proposed tax in Oregon's history—would further squeeze already tight business margins and consumer wallets.

Proponents claim businesses could absorb Measure 118's $6.8 billion sales tax, but this is unfeasible for grocery stores, which operate on already thin margins—often far lower than the proposed 3% tax. Measure 118 could erase profits entirely for some grocers and many would not survive, and others would have no choice but to pass along their increased costs.

At a time when many families are struggling to pay their monthly bills, this unfair tax on groceries will drive up costs even further for everyday Oregonians.

That's why the Northwest Grocery Retail Association is urging a NO vote on Measure 118.

Please find out more at NOonMeasure118.com and please join us in voting NO.

(This information furnished by Mia Noren, on behalf of the Northwest Grocery Retail Association.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon Truckers urge NO vote on Measure 118: Too costly to consumers

For more than 80 years, members of the Oregon Trucking Association have been bringing products to businesses in Oregon. We're committed to keeping stores stocked and ready for Oregon consumers. We pride ourselves on being an integral part of our economy and serving all Oregonians.

The Oregon Trucking Association is strongly opposed to Measure 118's reckless tax on sales.

Measure 118 impacts all businesses in Oregon, large and small. In fact, **Measure 118 is far more damaging for small businesses than for large companies.** Measure 118 would make it even harder for Oregon-based businesses to compete with the big national chains.

Measure 118 could easily be referred to as a "stealth sales tax." It would make it more expensive to deliver products to Oregon's family farms, small businesses, and local shops – a price you pay at the checkout line. This is in large part due to the increased taxes on fuel, which drives up the cost of moving products significantly.

Big chains often distribute and sell their products, so those products might only be subject to a single 3% tax. But local businesses often get products through independent manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors who would each pay the 3% tax along the way. Local businesses and their customers would face a "tax on a tax on a tax" that is even more costly.

This measure does *not* tax profits, it taxes sales – and it will end up being paid by Oregon consumers through higher prices on nearly everything we buy, such as food, clothing, medicine, fuel, and other necessities.

Measure 118 isn't about large, out-of-state corporations. It hits small businesses and consumers in a way that we have never seen in our state.

Please join us in voting NO on Measure 118.

Oregon Trucking Association

(This information furnished by LIGIA VISAN, Oregon Trucking Association.)

Argument in Opposition

Portland Metro Chamber Urges a NO Vote on Measure 118

The Portland Metro Chamber is greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce and represents more than 2,300 members. With more than 80% of our members are being small businesses, we strongly oppose Measure 118. This so-called "tax on big corporations" would ultimately cost everyone, including small businesses.

Visit NOonMeasure118.com to read the objective research that shows just how costly this tax on sales would be to consumers, small businesses, and Oregon's economy.

Just last year, a diverse group of community leaders endorsed a three-year pause on new taxes to let Portlanders catch our breath on rising costs. Measure 118 does the opposite.

We need to increase accountability and transparency and focus on getting our money's worth from the taxes we already pay, not **pass a massive tax on sales with no accountability or spending limits.**

Other reasons we oppose Measure 118:

Measure 118 would tax sales, not profits. A business could lose money, be unprofitable, yet still have to pay this enormous new tax. There's no doubt this would force companies to raise prices, cut jobs, or both. This discourages start-ups, entrepreneurship and innovative growth.

Measure 118 isn't just one tax, it's a "tax on a tax." For many products sold in Oregon, 118 would add a tax on sales at each step in the supply chain. By the time a product goes from a manufacturer to a packaging company to a distributor and then to a retailer, it may have been taxed multiple times before finally reaching the consumer. This type of "tax on a tax" would make Oregon products more expensive compared to their competitors.

Measure 118 creates a massive new bureaucracy. Proponents claim this $6.8 billion tax hike would be "rebated" to "eligible individuals". The state's own revenue department estimates needing 199 new employees just to determine eligibility and fight fraud.

Vote NO on Measure 118—it's not what Oregon needs

(This information furnished by Jonathan Isaacs, Executive Vice President, Portland Metro Chamber.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon Beverage Association urges NO on Measure 118

Started in 1946, the Oregon Beverage Association (OBA) is an organization consisting of bottling companies and distributors across the state's non-alcoholic beverage industry. We are an integral part of Oregon's economy and our local communities, employing over 4,000 people across the state.

Measure 118 is a deeply flawed measure that would hurt our member companies, their employees, and all Oregonians.

Measure 118 Would Implement a Massive Tax on Sales

Measure 118 is basically a gross receipts tax on businesses with more than $25 million in annual sales. In other words, it's a tax on sales – not profits. That means Oregon businesses would be forced to pay this new $6.8 Billion tax regardless of whether they make a large profit, make a small profit, or are losing money. That is fundamentally unfair.

Measure 118 Would Make Oregon Businesses Less Competitive

Taxes on Oregon businesses have increased 43% in just in the last five years, and Oregon's corporate taxation is the second highest in the country. Measure 118 would make local Oregon businesses less competitive with out-of-state and national corporations, drive more jobs and revenue out of the state, and hurt our local economies.

Measure 118 Would Mean Higher Consumer Prices – At the Worst Possible Time

By implementing the largest tax increase in Oregon history, Measure 118 would increase prices for everyday goods and services that Oregonians rely on – including beverages. And Measure 118 comes at the worst possible time, when the cost of living and inflation is already out of control.

Please join members of Oregon's non-alcoholic beverage industry and vote NO on Measure 118.

Oregon Beverage Association (OBA)

Bruce Hanna, President, OBA & Timber Country Coca-Cola

Andy Moore, Vice-President OBA & Co-President Bigfoot Beverages

(This information furnished by Hasina E Wittenberg, on behalf of Bruce Hanna and Andy Moore, Oregon Beverage Association.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges NO on Measure 118

Because...

High taxes create poverty

High taxes create poverty

High taxes create poverty

High taxes create poverty

High taxes create poverty

High taxes create poverty

High taxes create poverty

Here is the proof:

Top 10 Homeless States *(1)*	**Top 10 High Tax States** *(2)*
1. **Washington DC**	1. **California**
2. **New York**	2. **Hawaii**
3. **Vermont**	3. New Jersey
4. **Oregon**	4. **Oregon**
5. **California**	5. Minnesota
6. **Hawaii**	6. **Washington DC**
7. Washington	7. **New York**
8. Alaska	8. **Vermont**
9. Maine	9. Iowa
10. Massachuttes	10. Wisconsin

The six states with the worst homelessness problem have some of the highest taxes in the county.

When you raise taxes on businesses and on workers wages, you create poverty. Don't buy the lie that taxes cure poverty -- it only makes it worse.

If you raise more taxes -- you get more homeless. Are you ready for more homeless in Oregon? If not, vote No on Measure 118.

Visit us on our daily political news website OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years.

Source: (1) USA Facts, 3/29/2024 (2) H & R Block, 2021 Income Tax Data

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

Dear Oregonians,

Ballot Measure 118: Vote NO for Corporate Tax Revenue Rebate for Residents Initiative

This Initiative is baiting citizens of Oregon for an annual $750.00 "Rebate" check!

1. This "free money" rebate allows for an annual payment to go to persons residing in Oregon for at least 200 days, regardless of citizenship.
2. Currently, the law requires corporations pay the higher of either a taxable income rate or a corporate minimum tax. This initiative eliminates the minimum corporate tax and adds an additional 3% tax on sales over 25 million, telling us the 3% increased tax is for the purpose of these refund checks - not a tax plan for state revenue. If adopted and revenue shortfalls occur, will Oregonians get their rebate? How would shortfalls be made up?
3. Supporters of 118 are Pacific Green Party, Oregon Progressive Party and the Progressive Democrats of America. The writers declare this socialist handout rebate will reduce child poverty by 26% but no roadmap of how. This appears to be a step in the direction of a paltry universal income payment to residents of our state.
4. Oregon Business and Industry does NOT support this initiative due to the rising tax burden on Oregon businesses. They identify tax increases of 29% since 2019. Additional tax burden increases difficulty for employers to operate in Oregon.
5. Oregon's long-established corporate tax on sales contributes significantly to the state budget. This corporate tax structure only earmarks funds exclusively for individual rebates. It will not bring long term benefit to any Oregonian. It is merely a socialist redistribution of wealth on the backs of our treasured state businesses.
6. VOTE NO ON MEASURE 118! $750.00 a year sells out our businesses, our state job market and our most treasured cities in the state.

(This information furnished by Suni B Danforth, Umatilla County Republicans.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon's Homegrown Food Companies Oppose Measure 118

Measure 118 would be the largest tax increase in state history, creating a tax on sales that would drive up prices and put great Oregon companies at a competitive disadvantage.

Measure 118 would impose a 3% tax on the sales of goods and services sold by companies that have more than $25 million in Oregon sales per year. It would be a tax on gross sales, not profits - with no exemptions for operating costs or other expenses. Groceries are not exempt from Measure 118.

Because Measure 118 was written to tax products at each sale, food could be taxed multiple times through the supply chain. The cumulative effect of taxing products at each step makes Measure 118 even more costly than a traditional sales tax. For instance, food could be taxed at each point of sale: from the farmer to the food company, to the wholesaler, to the distributor, to the retailer, and then to the consumer.

Smaller food companies would be hit hard even if they aren't directly taxed. Most smaller food companies buy ingredients from companies that are large enough to be directly taxed. This would drive costs up for smaller companies who have already been hit by years of high inflation

This measure would make Oregon less competitive for food companies who compete with businesses in other states and countries. It makes Oregon less attractive for food makers that want to continue to provide quality local, affordable food to Oregonians.

There's no guarantee that Measure 118 revenue will be spent in the way its promoters claim. It is a blank check to the politicians with no accountability to voters.

Measure 118 is a costly proposal that would be detrimental to Oregon's food producers, small businesses, and consumers, and it provides no accountability for how the revenues would be spent. It deserves a NO vote.

Food Northwest
Representing Oregon food companies since 1914

(This information furnished by Dave Dillon, President, Food Northwest.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges NO on Measure 118

In 2019, Oregon passed a similar multi-billion dollar gross receipt tax. It forced 56 pharmacies to close, limiting healthcare options for Oregonians.

That heavy-handed tax was so costly that it caused all Bi-Mart pharmacies to close permanently (along with dozens of other pharmacies) because they could not afford the new tax. Now, Oregon is the 2nd worst state in America for pharmacy access. (OPB, 6/5/2024)

So... ask yourself... which one of your favorite businesses is next to close by passing the next multi-billion dollar gross receipts tax with Measure 118???

Visit us on our daily political news website
OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

Chambers of Commerce urge NO on Measure 118

Chambers of Commerce across the state, representing tens of thousands of Oregon's small businesses, nonprofits, community organizations and other employers, are adamantly opposed to Measure 118.

Measure 118's massive $6.8 Billion tax on sales would harm Oregon consumers, small businesses, and employers. It would also drive up costs significantly for everyday goods and services that all Oregonians rely on, such as food, energy, medicine, and other necessities.

Please join us in opposing Measure 118
Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce
Bay Area Chamber of Commerce
Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce
Boardman Chamber of Commerce
Canby Area Chamber of Commerce
Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce
Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce
Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce
Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce
Hermiston Chamber of Commerce
Heppner Chamber of Commerce
Keizer Chamber of Commerce
Lake County Chamber of Commerce
Oregon State Chamber of Commerce
Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce
Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce
The Chamber of Medford and Jackson County
Washington County Chamber of Commerce

(This information furnished by Jessica Chambers, Oregon State Chamber of Commerce.)

Argument in Opposition

MEASURE 118 WILL RIP OREGON'S ECONOMY

As an economics professor who's spent more than two decades studying Oregon's economy, I'm sounding the alarm on Measure 118.

This isn't just bad policy – it's a threat to our state's economic future.

Let's cut through the noise: Measure 118 isn't giving you free money. **It's taking money out of one pocket and putting less back in the other.**

Here's why:

1. Measure 118 slaps a 3% tax on corporate sales over $25 million. Don't be fooled – this isn't just hitting big corporations. This tax will rip through the entire economy, driving up prices on **everything** from groceries to housing. **You will pay the price.**

2. Those promised rebates? They're not what they seem. The IRS will likely count your rebate as income, meaning **you could lose up to 22% to federal taxes**. So much for your "free" money.

3. There's no guarantee you'll even see these rebates. Future legislatures could easily redirect this money elsewhere. **Don't count on cash that might never arrive.**

But the real danger is to Oregon's economic health.

This measure would drive businesses out of our state and take jobs with them. We're in a competitive global economy. **Companies don't have to do business in Oregon.** Measure 118 puts Oregon at a serious disadvantage.

The backers of this measure are selling a fantasy. They're hoping you'll be so excited by the promise of "free money" that you won't notice the economic damage it will cause. **Incomes will go down, prices will go up.**

As an economist, I can tell you: There's no such thing as a free lunch. Measure 118 comes with a hefty price tag – one that Oregon can't afford to pay.

For the sake of our state's economic future, I urge you to vote NO on Measure 118.

Dr. Eric Fruits

Adjunct Professor of Economics

President, Economics International Corp.

(This information furnished by Erik Lukens, on behalf of Dr. Eric Fruits.)

Argument in Opposition

Employee Owned Grocery stores opposed to Measure 118

Central Oregon's first, locally founded 100% Employee owned grocery stores oppose Measure 118.

Measure 118 would drive costs even higher, harming consumers and businesses like ours.

The prices our customers pay for milk, eggs, meat and everything else they need are driven by the prices we pay our suppliers and by the many other costs of doing business. These include paying a fair wage, providing our employees insurance, not to mention costs for electricity, equipment, cleaning supplies - even shopping carts!

This massive new tax – the biggest in Oregon history – Measure 118, would increase the prices of what we buy. That means it also would increase the prices of what we sell.

Proponents of this hidden sales tax claim that it would help low-income Oregonians by funding an annual "rebate" to everyone living here. They conveniently fail to mention its costs. Should it pass, all **Oregonians, including those with lower incomes, would struggle to pay higher prices for food and other necessities.**

The backers of Measure 118 also will tell you that it would affect only large corporations. That is false. It could impose a 3% tax on sales at every step of the supply chain, including the sale of grain to a manufacturer, the sale of a product to a distributor, and so on.

Because products could be taxed repeatedly before you buy them, the taxes would compound. **And businesses would be taxed even if they had no profits!** The effects would be particularly painful for low-margin businesses like grocery stores.

Please vote NO on Measure 118.

(This information furnished by Mia Noren, on behalf of the Northwest Grocery Retail Association.)

Argument in Opposition

Measure 118 does more harm than good

The Oregon Center for Public Policy fights for economic justice. We believe big corporations should pay more in taxes; we believe giving cash to vulnerable families improves economic security.

Unfortunately, Measure 118 would likely trigger several unintended, damaging consequences.

Schools and essential services would lose billions in funding. If the measure were approved, billions of dollars from corporate taxes that currently go to education and other essential services would instead help pay for the rebates.

The measure would make it harder to address existing crises. The measure would send rebates to everyone, including the well-off. Oregon has to pay its bills, so the revenue it collects needs to be spent on addressing the state's most pressing needs, such as housing and child care, rather than on rebates for those who don't need them.

Vulnerable Oregonians likely would lose public benefits. The federal government will likely consider the rebates as income for determining eligibility for programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, putting families at risk of losing food stamps and other benefits. While the measure tries to anticipate this problem by providing "hold harmless" payments to make up the difference, these payments would arrive well after families have lost their benefits and the ensuing financial harm.

Oregonians would get fewer federal dollars. The "hold harmless" payments would mean that a significant portion of Measure 118 revenue would go to fill the loss of federal funds currently flowing to Oregon families in the form of public benefits. Also, the rebate payments would be taxable income, meaning that part of the rebate would go to the IRS.

In sum, Measure 118 would do more harm than good.

Better options exist for taxing corporations and improving the economic security of Oregon families. You can find those at www.ocpp.org.

Oregonians who support economic justice should vote "no."

(This information furnished by Alejandro Queral, Oregon Center for Public Policy.)

Argument in Opposition

Measure 118 Hurts Oregon's Veterans

I'm proud to be a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, having served in Iraq and fought in the battle of Fallujah. My commitment to the brave men and women who have served our nation runs deep. I am dedicated to doing what I can to secure a bright and promising future for veterans. Measure 118 threatens that

future, and I will vote NO.

Measure 118 Would Mean Higher Consumer Prices for Those Already Struggling

Too many veterans struggle with homelessness, unemployment, or disability. And too many more are on limited, fixed incomes. This makes them vulnerable to the negative impacts of regressive taxes like the one in Measure 118.

Measure 118's $6.8 Billion tax on sales would increase the cost of medical supplies, prescriptions, and other healthcare items, placing a significant financial burden on those who need them to maintain their health and quality of life.

Measure 118 would also increase prices on groceries, clothes, housing, and other everyday essentials. Again, this is not part of a promising future.

Measure 118 Would Hurt Oregon Small Businesses

After serving in the Marine Corps, I worked many jobs to make a living, and in the last year, I started a small business. This has given me independence and allowed me to spend more time with my son, who has special needs. However, it has also presented challenges. In recent years, costs for items like rent, electricity, and cleaning supplies have increased.

Measure 118 would increase these costs even more and make Oregon businesses less competitive with out-of-state companies not affected by it, hurting Oregon's local economies.

When voting on Measure 118, please consider the negative impact that it would have on me and thousands of other veterans and small business owners across Oregon.

Chad Russell

U.S. Marine Corps Veteran, Sherwood

3rd Battalion 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division

(This information furnished by Angela Wilhelms, on behalf of Chad Russell.)

Argument in Opposition

Western States Carpenters and Associated Wall & Ceiling Contractors of Oregon OPPOSE Measure 118

Measure 118 promises 'free money,' but we all know such claims always come with a big price tag. What it will do is raise the price, in some cases substantially, on virtually everything Oregonians buy. **This includes food, access to housing, clothing, gasoline, medicines, household goods and more.**

Associated Wall & Ceiling Contractors of Oregon and the Western States Carpenters — the people who make sure the interior of your buildings are quality built, safe and durable — know that Measure 118 will raise the price our customers, your families, will have to pay. **Many of the supplies we must purchase to perform work will go up because of Measure 118**, forcing our contractors to raise the price of their work for you.

Inflation has already hit all Oregonians in the past few years and adding even greater inflation with this poorly developed measure will simply make the cost of living rise even further. **That is not fair to working families or the businesses that serve them.**

Think about the magnitude of this tax. Estimates are that **Measure 118 tax will drain up to $7 billion every year** from companies that do business in our state. That will make it harder for many businesses to keep costs down for their customers, if they can stay doing business in Oregon at all.

Beyond the direct cost to consumers, it will also cost the state hundreds of millions of dollars that will have to be cut from schools for our children, medical care for the poor and low-income and reducing other vital services. **This would be by far the biggest tax increase in Oregon's history**, and thus the biggest tax ever, due to higher prices, on everyday Oregonians

Measure 118 is bad for Oregon's economy, bad for our communities and bad for working Oregonians.

Please join us in voting no on Measure 118.

(This information furnished by Daniel Wattenburger, on behalf of Western States Regional Council of Carpenters & AWCC.)

Argument in Opposition

Mayors Across Oregon Urge NO on Measure 118!

We serve as mayors of very different cities across the state: large and small, rural and urban, blue and red. We face different issues, and we hold various positions on how to address the challenges and opportunities in our communities.

One thing we have in common is that Measure 118 would be a big problem for cities across Oregon. That's why we are united in **opposition to Measure 118.**

Measure 118 is a tax on the sale of goods and services that would result in higher prices for all consumers. **That would mean higher prices for individuals, for the small businesses in our cities, and even for the local governments we represent.**

ECOnorthwest, a respected Oregon-based economics firm, estimates that **state and local governments would see their costs increase by $630 million** *per year* because of Measure 118. That's $630 million out the door without any increase or improvement to services, without any benefit to Oregonians or communities across the state.

Measure 118 would force cities, schools, main street businesses, and citizens to pay more for everyday goods and services. **Food, gas, school supplies, insurance, medicine and many other things would cost more.**

Measure 118 would tax sales, not profits or income, and it wouldn't happen just once (like a traditional sales tax), but at every step of the production process and supply chain steps in Oregon. It would create a tax on a tax, potentially multiple times over.

Many cities are still reeling from the last time out-of-state interests experimented in Oregon with disruptive policies. **We cannot afford to be another experiment.**

We urge you to learn more at **NOonMeasure118.com** and join us in voting NO on this costly, flawed measure.

Joe Buck, Mayor, Lake Oswego

Steve Callaway, Mayor, Hillsboro

Kenneth E. Jackola, Mayor, Lebanon

Alex Johnson II, Mayor, Albany

Randy Sparacino, Mayor, Medford

Travis Stovall, Mayor, Gresham

John Turner, Mayor, Pendleton

Sean VanGordon, Mayor, Springfield

(This information furnished by Erik Lukens, on behalf of the above-listed mayors.)

Argument in Opposition

Past President of Oregon Medical Association explains why he opposes Measure 118

There are many good reasons to oppose Measure 118, but my primary reason is simple: **Measure 118 hurts my patients.**

I care for many senior citizens on fixed budgets. Unlike other state sales taxes, Measure 118 has no exemption for the basics of life – medicine, utilities or food. I am concerned for the health of my most vulnerable patients if they have to choose between which of these they can afford. **Because it**

is a regressive tax, Measure 118 hurts the working poor and those families struggling in this economy the most.

The non-partisan Legislative Revenue Office (LRO) points out that Measure 118's $6.8 Billion tax on sales would increase inflation – resulting in higher prescription costs and insurance rates at a time when they are already too high.

There is no logic to this tax. It's the only tax that I'm aware of where the state actually makes money when you are sick and require medications AND when you take your standard medications to stay well. That's just wrong. Don't punish Oregonians for taking care of their health.

Under Measure 118, there's no guarantee the funds will be use as its promoters promise. That's because the legislature could amend the law and redirect the funding elsewhere, with no accountability to voters. I cannot and will not support a tax policy with no guarantee for where the money goes. **My patients deserve assurances, not empty promises.**

Measure 118 would hurt my patients and all Oregonians. Please join me and thousands of my medical colleagues in voting **NO on Measure 118**.

Colin R. Cave, M.D.

Past President of Oregon Medical Association

(This information furnished by Angela Wilhelms, on behalf of Dr. Colin Cave.)

Argument in Opposition

Tax Fairness Oregon Opposes Measure 118

Tax Fairness Oregon is a network of volunteers who advocate for a fair, equitable, and efficient tax code.

We fight against tax breaks for large corporations and wealthy individuals and for a more progressive tax system.

We've carefully studied Measure 118, and we find this measure flawed.

Measure 118 is simple in concept and appeals to a principle that TFO supports: increase taxes on large businesses that have learned how to avoid taxes. However, without substantial legislative changes it would reduce funds available for schools, mental health, public safety, and critical state priorities.

Measure 118 will have long term impacts on our economy and state budgets with unintended consequences.

- The distribution of funds to all Oregonians, regardless of income, is wasteful resulting in fewer state resources for those who need them most.
- It will require hundreds of new state employees to manage the program.
- The tax is 700% larger than our Corporate Activities Tax. No other state has a gross receipts tax nearly this high.
- The business tax burden would be unevenly distributed between individual businesses and industries. Industries with small profit margins could pay most of their profits in this tax unless they are able to increase prices.
- There are no exclusions for groceries, medicine or housing.
- The size of the tax increase will make it difficult to find additional future revenue sources for schools, universities, mental health and housing.
- It is a risky, untested, social experiment.
- We should instead, expand existing, proven programs helping low-income Oregonians like our Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit.

It sounds good, but it will hurt you in ways you cannot see
Measure 118 is inequitable and wasteful

Vote No on Measure 118

(This information furnished by Jody Wiser, Chair, Tax Fairness Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

If you look just at the headings, M118 looks fantastic, but **the devil is in the details and the details are terrible**.

If you like fewer jobs, and less income for Oregonians, less money to spend on education, healthcare, and public safety, when we need more teachers and police, not fewer, you will love M118. I don't like any of these things. I will **vote NO**, you should too.

M118 acts like a strange **sales tax.** It taxes big grocery chains and their suppliers, and will raise food costs for all Oregonians. Because most farmers and suppliers will raise their prices to pay the tax and grocers will too, your price may go up more than you think. Most other things you buy will cost more just because of this tax, too. I will be voting NO, you should too.

If you think Oregon taxpayers should pay for federal programs that help low-income families now paid for by the federal government, you will like M118. I believe our federal taxes should support low-income programs so that our Oregon taxes can be used for schools, healthcare and public safety. I will be voting NO, you should too.

Oregon supports low-income families with things like child tax credits, support for low-income housing, and other programs. These are programs carefully targeted to people who need them most. The Legislature could increase or add to these at lower cost and with better results than **poorly written M118**.

How much time should the Legislature spend trying to fix M118 next year? I believe the correct answer is "none". Vote NO on M118.

I've studied many tax proposals during 18 years in the legislature and nearly 12 years as the House Revenue Committee Chair. I support taxation to help Oregonians live better by supporting basic services. **M118 is a** mess, beguiling us with **false hope for a free lunch.**

Don't be fooled. Vote NO!

(This information furnished by Philip N Barnhart.)

Argument in Opposition

Leading Oregon medical organizations urge NO on Measure 118

Our organizations represent medical and health care clinicians including physicians, dentists, and students in the health sciences. Every day, our members work tirelessly to provide essential, life-saving health care to millions of Oregonians.

We've carefully studied Measure 118 - here's why we urge NO:

Measure 118 is deeply flawed

Measure 118 would implement a new $6.8 billion tax on goods and services in Oregon. Unlike other taxes, Measure 118 provides no exemptions for prescription medications, medical supplies, medical services or procedures, health insurance premiums, and other essentials that our patients rely on.

Measure 118's tax would apply regardless of whether a health care clinician is breaking even or losing money. That could force many to lay off workers, increase costs for patients, or even have to close their doors to patients.

Measure 118 would increase prices, hurting those who can least afford it

Measure 118's massive new tax on sales and services would disproportionately impact low- and fixed-income households, exacerbating existing health disparities by making essentials like food and prescriptions more expensive. This could lead to increased stress, poor nutrition, and delayed medical care, ultimately burdening our healthcare system with patients with more severe and complex medical needs.

Please look into the facts and join us in voting NO on 118.

Oregon Medical Association

Oregon Dental Association

Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon

Oregon Chapter of American College of Physicians

Oregon Pathologists Assocation

Oregon Urological Society

Oregon Society of Physician Associates

Oregon Independent Medical Association

Lane County Medical Society

Compass Oncology

Columbia Pain Management

Oregon Anesthesiology Group

The Oregon Clinic

(This information furnished by Courtni Dresser, Oregon Medical Association.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon National Electrical Contractors Association and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Ask You to Vote "NO" on Measure 118

Measure 118 is the largest proposed tax in Oregon's history and would cripple our economy. Oregonians are already struggling with the effects of inflation and are finding it difficult to manage their day-to-day expenses without dealing with the effects of **a poorly written law that would drive up prices for everyone.** This is why the Oregon National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and IBEW Locals 48, 280 and 659 are strongly opposed to Measure 118 and urge your "NO" vote.

Oregon depends on the skilled contractors and electricians of Oregon NECA and IBEW for their electrical needs throughout the state. Measure 118 will increase prices on all electrical components from wire to appliances and will also drive up prices across the entire construction industry. **These increased prices could lead to loss of over 28,000 jobs and a potential reduction in wages for others.**

Measure 118 will tax businesses based on gross sales and not net profits. **This means the tax is passed down through the supply chain multiple times, and it will be the consumer who is left to deal with the cost increase.** Industries like construction and retail that deal with a small net profit margin will be hit the hardest and the only way they will be able to stay in business is by raising their prices. These price increases will hit seniors and fixed-income families far more severely than any relief the small amount of money promised by this ballot measure will bring.

This ballot measure will severely damage Oregon's business sector and will increase costs to all Oregonians on day-to-day necessities. That is why we ask you to vote "NO" on Measure 118.

(This information furnished by Daniel Wattenburger, on behalf of Oregon NECA and IBEW Locals 48, 280, 659.)

Argument in Opposition

Moms Against Measure 118

The costs for childcare, school supplies, groceries, and our other basic needs we provide for our children have gotten out of control. Our young school aged children are growing like weeds. The last thing our household budgets need is more increased costs by adding a sales tax.

This $6.8 Billion dollar tax would further hurt our ability to provide our families with their basic needs.

As moms, we urge you to vote No on Measure 118 for ALL of our kids.

Jessica Anderson, Mom of 2

Morgan Ross, Mom of 2

Callie Smith, Mom of 2

Emily Woodcock, Mom of 3

(This information furnished by Marie Bowers.)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon Dairy Farmers Oppose Measure 118

Nearly all of Oregon's dairy farms are family-owned, having proudly produced food for the state's residents for well over a century. Dairy farmers do not set the price of milk and can't pass on any expenses. Farming is an unpredictable, low-margin business. Measure 118 would impact dairy farmers significantly and lower their margins even further.

Measure 118 would increase the prices Oregonians pay for milk, butter, ice cream and other dairy products.

Consider for a minute just a few of the expenses for dairy farmers: feed for their cows and all animals, milking and farm equipment repairs, power bills, cleaning supplies, insurance, and so on.

Because Measure 118 is a tax on sales, it would be folded into the cost of the products and services dairy farmers use. The farmer might not pay the tax *directly* but make no mistake: The farmer will pay it.

If approved, dairy farmers would be squeezed financially, and more dairy farms would close. This tax would disproportionately impact smaller farms.

Ultimately, Oregonians would pay more for dairy products and everything else they buy. **Measure 118's massive tax on sales has no exemption for food, medicine and other necessities.** It is a sweeping, highly regressive and costly tax that would especially hurt those who can least afford it, including seniors and those living on fixed incomes.

Oregon's dairy farmers love what they do, they know how important our high-quality, nutritious products are for Oregonians, and want them to remain affordable.

Voters who value local products and affordability should vote NO on Measure 118.

(This information furnished by Tami Kerr, Executive Director, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association.)

Argument in Opposition

Coalition For A Healthy Oregon Opposes Measure 118

Our healthcare providers serve nearly 370,000 of Oregon's Medicaid members through the Oregon Health Plan. **For their sake, we urge Oregonians to vote NO on Measure 118**, a terribly flawed proposal that would the raise costs for virtually everything Oregonians buy. Measure 118 contains no exemption for necessities like food, clothing and shelter. **It doesn't even have an exemption for medicine!**

Measure 118's proponents want Oregonians to believe that it would produce "free money" in the form of annual checks. All of this supposedly free money would be generated by imposing a 3% tax on the business income of many Oregon businesses.

It takes only the most basic understanding of economics to know that this huge tax on sales – $6.8 Billion per year – would increase costs. Taxes on sales are passed along to buyers, and the effects are highly regressive. People with lower incomes would feel the pinch far more than those with higher incomes. **Measure 118 is proof that "free money" is never free.**

Measure 118 would be worth opposing if raising prices were all it promised to do. Unfortunately, it would do far more harm than that.

For complicated reasons, Measure 118 would reduce the state General Fund, which supports many programs that help low-income Oregonians. That means the people we serve might see important services threatened even as prices they pay for food, medicine and clothing rose. **For Oregon's most vulnerable people, Measure 118 would add insult to injury.**

Measure 118 is a huge tax on sales that would prove particularly costly to Oregonians who already struggle to make ends meet. **We urge Oregonians to vote NO.**

(This information furnished by Daniel Wattenburger, on behalf of Coalition for a Healthy Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges NO on Measure 118

Dead people will get a rebate check

Dead people will get a rebate check

Dead people will get a rebate check

Dead people will get a rebate check

Dead people will get a rebate check

Dead people will get a rebate check

Under Measure 118, dead people will be awarded rebate checks.

Read the text of measure 118: *"Section 2. The Oregon Rebate. (1)The increase in corporate minimum tax revenue attributable to Section 1 of this 2024 Act shall be used to provide an equal rebate to each individual, as defined in ORS 316.022, who has resided in this state in the aggregate more than 200 days of the eligibility year.(2)* ***If the sole reason why an individual is not eligible for the rebate for a calendar year is the date of their birth or death, the individual is eligible for the rebate for the calendar year."***

The California authors of this measure took time to purposefully insert this specific "death clause" (as cited above) into Measure 118 so that dead people who lived at least one day in Oregon would be eligible for a rebate check for that year.

Why would we take money from public schools and businesses to give it to dead people? This is reckless and insane.

NO on Measure 118

NO tax cash dump on dead people!

Visit us on our daily political news website
OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

Local garden wholesaler urges NO on Measure 118

Little Prince of Oregon Nursery has grown a lot in the last 27 years. Today we grow over 1000 varieties of plants—groundcovers, ferns, hardy perennials, and tropical house plants, among others. We sell our plants wholesale to local independent garden centers, wholesale nurseries and landscapers across the United States. It is through local retailers that Oregonians find our products.

Our business model has always been about innovating to meet our customers' needs—whether investing in efficient heating and cooling for our greenhouses, supporting pollinators through our growing practices, or developing new consumer-friendly brands. Our business was born in Oregon, and we espouse those values.

For us, **Measure 118 would be devastating.**

Agriculture is a low margin business, even in good years. Measure 118's massive tax on sales would significantly increase the cost of growing and selling nursery crops in the state. Not only would the measure increase the cost of essentials used to produce high-quality nursery plants—such as fuel, energy and other crop inputs—but it would make us less competitive compared to plant nurseries in other states. Oregon is already a high-cost state, and Measure 118 would substantially drive up our costs.

Measure 118's promoters claim that the measure would only impact large, out-of-state corporations. But in reality, local, small businesses, like ours, would also face increased taxes on everything we buy and sell. In turn, our customers would pay higher prices at the store.

In the nursery business, we know that **money doesn't grow on trees.** In fact, growing trees and other crops in Oregon would be more expensive under Measure 118.

Measure 118 would place an enormous strain on our small business and the local garden centers that sell our plants to Oregonians. The promoters of this massive tax might not care about that, but Oregon voters should.

(This information furnished by Jeff Stone, For Little Prince of Oregon Nursery.)

Argument in Opposition

Rural Small Businesses in Oregon's Forest Community Oppose Measure 118

Higher prices for all Oregonians. Consumers pay for M118 tax. Every service and product produced in Oregon is touched by many supply-chain businesses that would pay the new gross tax. This is inflationary to working families. Every Oregon business—small and big, rural and urban—would raise its prices to all Oregonians.

M118 price inflation impact on small business would be crippling. This scheme would force thousands of small businesses to raise their prices, cut jobs, or shut down completely. Its inflation would harm small business worse, meaning fewer small businesses and more large business in the future.

Small-town business and residents hurt by M118. It would enact a new tax and price inflation on small and large business alike, as small-town enterprises would see their supply-chains inflated. And, small-town employers may gross more receipts than the M118 minimum.

M118 delivers a blow to small employers in Oregon's important rural forest sector. Forest management businesses are small firms that rely on larger suppliers who gross above the M118 minimum. Also, many small forestry businesses may gross above this minimum, even in unprofitable years. Working families with rural small employers would be directly-burdened by this new inflationary tax that punishes small forestry companies.

Oregonian quality of life would suffer under M118 burdens. Because this scheme would enact dire implications for the services, goods and lifestyle enjoyed by Oregonians, Democratic and Republican legislative leaders share their bipartisan opposition to M118.

Why would M118 make government take more of your money through higher prices? Government should not take more of your money to give it back to you. The cost to you in higher prices would far exceed any alleged future amount the government may return to you. This scheme would grow government in a bad way.

On behalf of 953 small forestry businesses, please vote NO on M118.

Associated Oregon Loggers, Inc.

(This information furnished by Rex Storm, Associated Oregon Loggers, Inc..)

Argument in Opposition

Oregon's Restaurants and Hotels Urge a NO Vote on Measure 118

Oregon's restaurants and hotels are responsible for 164,800 jobs and generate 54% of the annual tourism dollars spent in Oregon.

Our local hotels and restaurants can't afford Measure 118. Our organization, the Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association, strongly recommends a NO vote on Measure 118. Here's why:

Measure 118 would tax sales, not profits

Unlike corporate income taxes, Measure 118 would tax a company's sales, not its profits. That would especially hurt businesses that have a slim profit margin like restaurants, grocery stores, farms and other businesses that are already struggling to survive.

Measure 118 would increase costs for restaurants, hotels and consumers

The costs for our services and supplies—food, gas, utilities, paper products, and insurance, just to name a few—would increase significantly under Measure 118. These higher costs would be felt by consumers through higher prices for food at restaurants and higher travel and lodging expenses.

When the cost of goods and services such as food, medicine, clothing, gas, travel and utilities increases, it becomes a tremendous hardship on many working families that our restaurants and hotels employ.

Measure 118 is a regressive tax on sales

Measure 118 would hit hardest those who can least afford it, such as low-income families, seniors on fixed incomes, and students. And Measure 118 comes at the worst possible time, when we are already dealing with rising costs and inflation.

Measure 118 is bad for Oregon consumers and bad for our Oregon restaurants and hotels. Please join us and vote NO.

(This information furnished by Aidan C Earls.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges NO on Measure 118

Multnomah County recently gave out free $500 cash debit cards to any homeless person (KATU 12/9/24).

Surprise! Homelessness only increased, exploded in size, over-whelmed shelters, and is bankrupting local government budgets.

If Multnomah County's free $500 cash dump on the homeless failed -- wait until you see what Measure 118's big $1,000 cash checks to homeless and street addicts will do to grow the homeless in your neighborhood and repeat this colossal failure on a bigger scale. Multnomah's epic failure can be your county's epic failure.

Visit us on our daily political news website
OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Argument in Opposition

REALTORS® across Oregon oppose Measure 118.

REALTORS® work daily with Oregonians as we help them find their next place to call home. Buying a home is a significant purchase – often the biggest someone will make in their lifetime. So, we know how hard things are for many people. **The last thing we need right now is a costly new tax on sales that would make things more expensive for Oregonians.**

Many Oregonians are reeling from extraordinarily high inflation over the last few years. **Measure 118 would add significantly to that inflation.** According to nonpartisan research not paid for by any of the campaigns, in addition to increasing prices, Measure 118 would reduce growth in jobs, population, wages and income. **This will not help Oregonians.**

Taxing sales means that housing will be more expensive than it already is. For example, houses and apartments are built with wood. It would be great if that wood came from Oregon and provided jobs throughout the supply chain, right? But with Measure 118, the wood for a new house could be taxed when it's harvested, when it's milled, when it's put on a truck for a distributor, when it's sold to a builder and ultimately when it's sold to a new home buyer or leased to a new tenant. **A tax at each step will only be passed on to the end customer through higher purchase prices on homes and higher rents. This makes housing more expensive and makes Oregon businesses less competitive.**

Oregon REALTORS® are opposed to Measure 118 and ask that you join them in voting NO.

(This information furnished by Jeremy Rogers, Oregon REALTORS®.)

Argument in Opposition

Central Oregon Business Leaders Oppose Measure 118

As advocates for economic development in our region, we represent businesses, small and large, who employ Central Oregonians and support a healthy economy. As businesses and employers, we strongly oppose Measure 118 due to the harm it would create to our local economy and our employees.

Measure 118 is deeply concerning. It would impose the worst kind of tax on sales – one that could be added at multiple stages of the production process. **It's a "tax on a tax"** that would make Oregon products more expensive and local Oregon companies less competitive, with consequences to our businesses and our workforce.

Measure 118 would be the largest tax increase in state history and lead to **higher prices for the everyday essentials, like electricity, food, medicine, fuel, and housing.**

Central Oregonians are already facing high housing costs, and Measure 118 would continue this trend making our region unaffordable for the workforce. Over 90% of employers in a Bend Chamber survey reported housing being a deterrent to recruitment and retention. And Measure 118 comes at the worst possible time, when Oregon families and small businesses are grappling with an extremely high cost of living.

Measure 118 sends a negative signal to businesses looking to move to and grow in Oregon. According to the nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office, Measure 118 would have a **dampening effect on economic growth statewide**, leading to 28,000 fewer jobs and a reduction in wages. In Central Oregon, we are already seeing personal income level off since the competitive post pandemic job market as the economy softens.

Measure 118 is a costly proposal that would be detrimental to Central Oregon businesses, our workforce, and our local economy. We recommend a NO vote.

Bend Chamber of Commerce
BBT Architects, Inc.
Seran Bioscience, LLC
Mt. Bachelor
CV International, Inc.
Steve and Cheri Helt

(This information furnished by Katy Brooks, Bend Chamber of Commerce.)

Argument in Opposition

Measure 118 would hurt rural communities

Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce represents businesses and organizations in rural Douglas County.

Measure 118 would increase costs for Douglas County businesses and families. As a result, operating a small business in our community would become much more costly. So would simply living here.

Taxing the sales of companies that provide many of the goods and services in Oregon is just a tricky way of imposing a hidden sales tax. By increasing the price of food, housing, electricity, gas, insurance, medicine, health care and other essential products and services, Measure 118 would increase living costs for Oregon families and operating costs for local businesses.

Measure 118 would impact small, family-owned businesses. Measure 118's out-of-state funders want Oregonians to believe that the measure would tax only large corporations, but the measure would make it harder for Oregon-based businesses to compete with big, national chains.

Big chains commonly make, distribute and sell their own products, so those items would be taxed once. But local businesses, like those in Douglas County, often get products through independent manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors who would each pay the tax. Local businesses and their customers would face a **"tax on a tax on a tax**."

The cost of operating a business in Oregon is already high, and it can be difficult for local Oregon businesses to compete with out-of-state and national corporations. Measure 118 would reduce our competitiveness even further.

Douglas County already has higher unemployment than the state average. **We don't need to do anything else that will harm our economy or reduce jobs.**

Rural Oregon has already been hit hard by so many flawed policies – we don't need this costly measure that makes it harder for people in rural communities to make ends meet.

Please join us in voting NO on Measure 118.

Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce

(This information furnished by Debra L Fromdahl, President & CEO, Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce.)

Proposed by initiative petition to be voted on at the General Election, November 5, 2024.

Measure No.

119

Cannabis retailers/processors must remain neutral regarding communications to their employees from labor organizations; penalties

Result of "Yes" Vote

"Yes" vote requires cannabis retailers/processors to agree to remain neutral when labor organizations communicate with employees about collective bargaining rights; licensure/certification penalties possible.

Result of "No" Vote

"No" vote retains current labor laws; no requirement that cannabis retailers/processors agree to remain neutral on communications between their employees and labor organizations.

Summary

Current law generally guarantees employees' rights to organize and collectively bargain. Measure requires agreement between cannabis retailers/processors and a labor organization that meets the definition of labor organization under the National Labor Relations Act and whose operations are independent of the retailer/processor. At minimum, agreement must require that retailer/processor will remain neutral when labor organization representatives communicate with employees about collective bargaining rights. Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission must require such signed agreement or attestation of such agreement, in addition to existing licensure or certification requirements for cannabis retailers/processors. Failure to have a signed agreement or attestation, or to follow the agreement, may result in penalties, including fines or the denial, suspension, or revocation of retailer's/processor's license or certificate.

Estimate of Financial Impact

This measure will increase state government costs by approximately $0.6 million in the first year. Ongoing costs will increase by approximately $0.8 million each subsequent year. The estimated costs include six new positions to verify application documents and monitor compliance. The increased costs will be paid for by license application fees. There is no financial impact to local governments.

Committee Members:
Secretary of State LaVonne Griffin-Valade
State Treasurer Tobias Read
Berri Leslie, Director, Dept. of Administrative Services
Betsy Imholt, Director, Dept. of Revenue
Ernest Stephens, Local Government Representative

(The estimate of financial impact was provided by the above committee pursuant to ORS 250.127.)

Text of Measure

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) This act may be referred to as the "United For Cannabis Workers"

(2) The people of Oregon find that:

(a) Due to ambiguity in federal law, cannabis workers are being denied workplace rights;

(b) Denial of such rights can result in unsafe workplaces, wage theft, and other abuses; and

(d) Judicial precedent clearly allows state laws to fix problems that are unaddressed by the federal government.

(3) THIS MEASURE WOULD DO THE FOLLOWING:

(a) Ensure that businesses licensed to sell or process cannabis enter into an agreement that allows their employees to organize and speak out without fear of retaliation.

SECTION 2. Section 3 of this 2024 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 475C.005 to 475C.525.

SECTION 3. (1) As used in this section:

(a) 'Applicant' means an applicant for a license or certification or renewal of a license or certification issued under ORS 475C.085, 475C.097, 475C.125, 475C.133, 475C.289 or 475C.548.

(b) 'Bona fide labor organization' means a labor organization as defined in 29 U.S.C. 402:

(A) That is recognized to be engaged in an industry affecting commerce; and

(B) The operations of which are not deemed to be a part of an integrated enterprise that includes a licensee or licensee representative or an association of licensees or licensee representatives.

(c) 'Employee' does not include employees who perform agricultural labor as described in ORS 657.045.

(d) 'Industry affecting commerce' has the meaning given that term in 29 U.S.C. 402.

(e) 'Integrated enterprise' means an enterprise in which the operations of two or more separate entities are sufficiently intertwined, as determined in consideration of the factors provided under ORS 653.422, such that the operations of one entity are considered to be under the control of another entity.

(f) 'Labor dispute' has the meaning given that term in ORS 663.005.

(g) 'Labor peace agreement' means an agreement under which, at a minimum, an applicant or licensee agrees to remain neutral with respect to a bona fide labor organization's representatives communicating with the employees of the applicant or the licensee about the rights afforded to such employees under ORS 663.110.

(h) 'Licensee' means a holder of a license or certification issued under ORS 475C.085, 475C.097, 475C.125, 475C.133, 475C.289 or 475C.548.

(i) 'Strike' has the meaning given that term in ORS 662.205.

(2) In addition to and not in lieu of any other requirement for licensure or certification, or renewal of a license or certification under ORS 475C.085, 475C.097, 475C.125, 475C.133, 475C.289 or 475C.548 with which an applicant must comply, the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission shall require the applicant to submit, along with an application for a license or certification or renewal of a license or certification:

(a) A signed labor peace agreement entered into between the applicant and a bona fide labor organization actively engaged in representing or attempting to represent the applicant's employees; or

(b) An attestation signed by the applicant and the bona fide labor organization stating that the applicant and the bona fide labor organization have entered into and will abide by the terms of a labor peace agreement.

(3) Failure to provide a signed labor peace agreement or attestation or to abide by the terms of a labor peace agreement described in subsection (2) of this section is grounds for the commission to deny an application for licensure or certification or renewal of a license or certification under ORS 475C.085, 475C.097, 475C.125, 475C.133, 475C.289 or 475C.548.

(4)(a) If a labor peace agreement described under subsection (2) of this section is terminated for any reason after issuance of a license or certification under ORS 475C.085, 475C.097, 475C.125, 475C.133, 475C.289 or 475C.548, the licensee or certificate holder shall notify the commission in writing of the termination within 10 business days of the date of termination.

(b) The licensee or certificate holder shall include with the notice an attestation stating that the licensee or certificate holder will enter into a new labor peace agreement within 30 days following the date on which the previous agreement was terminated.

(c) Not later than 30 days following the date of termination, the licensee or certificate holder shall provide evidence to the commission that the licensee or certificate holder has entered into a new labor peace agreement by submitting the following information to the commission:

(A) A signed copy of the new labor peace agreement entered into between the licensee or certificate holder and the bona fide labor organization; or

(B) An attestation signed by the licensee or certificate holder and the bona fide labor organization stating that the licensee or certificate holder and the bona fide labor organization have entered into and will abide by the terms of a labor peace agreement.

(d) The administrator of the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission shall impose the following sanctions against a licensee or certificate holder that fails to provide evidence that the licensee or certificate holder has entered into a new labor peace agreement in accordance with paragraph (c) of this subsection:

(A) If the licensee or certificate holder fails to provide the evidence within 30 days following the date of termination of the previous labor peace agreement, suspension of the license or certificate for not more than 10 days or imposition of a fine in the amount of $1,650.

(B) If the licensee or certificate holder fails to provide the evidence within 60 days following the date of termination of the previous labor peace agreement, suspension of the license or certificate for not more than 30 days or imposition of a fine in the amount of $4,950.

(C) If the licensee or certificate holder fails to provide the evidence within 90 days following the date of termination of the previous labor peace agreement, suspension of the license or certificate for not more than 30 days.

(D) If the licensee or certificate holder fails to provide the evidence within 120 days following the date of termination of the previous labor peace agreement, revocation of the license or certification.

(4) The requirements of this 2024 Act apply to applications for licenses and certifications and renewals for licenses and certifications received by the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission on or after the effective date of this 2024 Act.

Note: **Boldfaced** type indicates new language; [*brackets and italic*] type indicates deletions or comments.

Explanatory Statement

Ballot Measure 119 requires cannabis retailers and processors, including certain cannabis-related laboratories or researchers, to have a labor peace agreement with a bona fide labor organization in order to obtain or renew a license to operate in Oregon. The agreement must provide that the cannabis business agrees to remain neutral when a labor organization communicates with employees of the cannabis business about collective bargaining rights. The measure directs the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) to require the agreement in order for the OLCC to issue or renew a license or certification.

Currently:

- Federal law generally grants many employees the right to organize and collectively bargain.
- Federal law does not require businesses to remain neutral in their communications or have a labor peace agreement.
- In Oregon, cannabis businesses are not required to have a labor peace agreement with a labor organization nor remain neutral in communications about labor organizing and collective bargaining.
- Every cannabis retailer or processor is required to obtain a license from the OLCC before engaging in retailer or processor activity in Oregon, and to periodically renew the license. Certain laboratories that conduct cannabis related testing or research must obtain a license or certification from the OLCC to conduct business.

Under Ballot Measure 119:

- Cannabis businesses seeking a license or certification from the OLCC, including renewal, must submit a signed labor peace agreement or attestation in order to obtain a license, certification, or renewal.
- The labor peace agreement must be with a labor organization, as defined under 29 U.S. Code Sec. 402 in the federal National Labor Relations Act.
- The labor peace agreement must state, at a minimum, that the cannabis business agrees to remain neutral when a labor organization's representatives communicate with the employees of the cannabis business about collective bargaining rights.
- If a cannabis business does not submit a labor peace agreement, or fails to abide by the terms of the agreement, the OLCC may deny an application or renewal.
- If a labor peace agreement is terminated for any reason after the issuance of a license or certification, the cannabis business must notify the OLCC of the termination within 10 business days and provide evidence of entering a new labor peace agreement within 30 days. If the cannabis business fails to do so within the specified deadline, the OLCC must impose penalties or fines that increase in severity up to and including revocation of a license or certification after 120 days past the deadline.

Ballot Measure 119 applies to applications or renewals for cannabis licenses and certifications that are received by the OLCC on or after December 5, 2024.

Committee Members:	**Appointed by:**
Michael Selvaggio	Chief Petitioners
Madison Walters	Chief Petitioners
Derke Sangston	Secretary of State
Erin Sweeney	Secretary of State
Marla Rae**	Members of the Committee

**Member absent at the time of voting

(The above committee was appointed to provide an impartial explanation of the ballot measure pursuant to ORS 251.215.)

Argument in Favor

Vote YES on Measure 119!

Workers should have the freedom to form a union if they so choose. This measure ensures that Oregon's cannabis industry employees can exercise that freedom without fear of retaliation from their employer.

WHY MEASURE 119 IS NEEDED:

Because cannabis is still a federally-controlled substance, many cannabis businesses are arguing that some federal laws protecting employees don't apply to them. This means that workers who try to form a union might face being disciplined or fired, or that the business simply refuses to recognize their union.

This leaves these employees with few ways to hold their employers accountable when it comes to issues like safety or wage theft —in fact, several workers have already died due to easily preventable accidents.

MEASURE 119 IS THE RIGHT SOLUTION:

States like California, New York, and New Jersey have already had very similar laws in place for several years. As part of the state licensing process for cannabis businesses, these states require agreements to be in place that ensure the employer will remain neutral if their employees are thinking of unionizing.

Measure 119 does not require employees to join a union — It protects employees who do decide to do so.

WHY NOW?

Because the cannabis industry remains unregulated, workplace safety and wage theft are serious concerns for many workers. This ensures that workers who want to unionize to have a bigger voice in their workplace are protected when they do.

PROTECT WORKERS' FREEDOM TO UNIONIZE: VOTE YES on 119!

(This information furnished by Madison Walters.)

Argument in Favor

THE OREGON WORKING FAMILIES PARTY URGES A YES VOTE ON MEASURE 119

As the State Director of Oregon's Working Families Party, we strongly urge a yes vote on Measure 119, which will protect the rights of cannabis workers to organize in a union.

The Oregon Working Families Party works to build an Oregon that works for all of us, not just the wealthy and well connected.

When it comes to employment conditions, the best way for workers to raise their voices and act collectively to improve working conditions.

This measure aligns with the pillars of our Party platform to Build Worker Power and for Fair Trade, Fair Economy. We demand fair rules and legislation that strengthen unions and create fair working conditions for everyone. We encourage all workers to form or join unions and bargain collectively to determine their terms and conditions of employment. We also need trade rules that build strong economies among all trading partners, that enable enforcement of domestic labor and environmental laws, and that regulate and tax global capital.

-Annie Naranjo-Rivera, Oregon Working Families Party State Director

PROTECT WORKERS' FREEDOM TO UNIONIZE: VOTE YES on 119!

(This information furnished by Dan Clay, on behalf of the Oregon Working Families Party.)

Argument in Favor

ELECTED AND COMMUNITY LEADERS AGREE:
VOTE YES ON MEASURE 119

Measure 119 has earned endorsements of support from elected and community leaders across the state, including:

Val Hoyle
Congresswoman (Eugene/Springfield)

Maxine Dexter
Former State Representative and nominee for Congressional Distrtict 3 (Portland)

Tobias Read
State Treasurer

Labor Commissioner Christina Stephenson
Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries

Chris Gorsek
State Senator (Gresham)

Dan Rayfield
Former Speaker of the House and nominee for Attorney General

Ben Bowman
House Democratic Leader (Tigard)

Farrah Chaichi
State Representative (Beaverton/Aloha)

Dacia Grayber
State Representative (Tigard)

Zach Hudson
State Representative (Gresham/Troutdale)

Travis Nelson
State Representative (Portland)

Khanh Pham
State Representative (Portland)

Jules Walters
State Representative (Tualatin/West Linn)

Christine Lewis
Metro Councilor (Clackamas County)

Milwaukie City Councilor Will Anderson
Milwaukie City Councilor

Steph Routh
Small Business Owner, Community Organizer

Candace Avalos
Nonprofit Executive Director

Jonathan Tasini
Labor Advocate

Tiffany Koyama Lane
Public School Teacher, Union Organizer

Meghan Moyer
Disability Rights Advocate

... and many more. Check out the full list of endorsements at www.VoteYes119.org

(This information furnished by Dan Clay, Chief Petitioner.)

Argument in Favor

A 'YES' VOTE FOR MEASURE 119 IS A VOTE FOR OREGON WORKERS

America's labor movement began in the late 1800s, as a response to the lack of worker protections in newly developed factories and corporations. For over a century, workers have used the power of collective action to bargain with employers and secure higher wages, stronger benefits, and safer working conditions.

As Oregon continues to set standards for what legalization of cannabis will look like for other states, it's imperative that we model a strong and progressive industry that centers the concerns of workers.

Measure 119 makes a simple change to the licensure requirements for cannabis businesses, requiring these businesses to sign a neutrality agreement with a labor union. Essentially, businesses will agree to be neutral if workers attempt to organize. Right now, without this protection, workers who attempt to organize face discrimination and retaliation at work, with some even being fired for discussing forming a union. This is unacceptable.

Not all workers need the intervention of a union, but when they do, it is essential that we protect their right to organize and advocate for themselves. Unionization improves the lives of workers, and historically has improved the quality of the products and services union workers provide.

A "YES" vote for Measure 119 protects cannabis workers' right to organize.

(This information furnished by Madison Walters.)

Argument in Favor

OREGON'S STATE LEADERS SUPPORT MEASURE 119

Hello Oregonians,

We urge your YES vote on Measure 119, which would help preserve the freedom of workers in the cannabis industry to decide for themselves whether or not to form a union.

The legalization of Oregon's cannabis industry created a powerful opportunity to lift up thousands of workers in a new industry and create economic opportunities for many who would otherwise be marginalized. We've come a long way already.

But we are lagging on worker protections. While much of the cannabis industry is made up of good partners in their community, there are nevertheless those bad actors who take advantage of blind spots in federal regulations and the marginalization of their workforce to cut corners and exploit employees. Gaps in federal labor protections have made it easy for these companies to intimidate workers and bust their unionization efforts.

Measure 119 will ensure that licensed cannabis retailers and processors are party to a Labor Peace Agreement requiring them to remain neutral when workers attempt to unionize. It will not require anyone to join a union, but it will protect workers as they decide for themselves whether or not to.

Other states have addressed this issue in ways similar to Measure 119 — their industries are thriving, their workers are protected, and there have been no significant legal issues.

Ultimately, Measure 119 aligns Oregon's cannabis regulations with our values: worker freedom, collective action, and looking after each other.

We urge a YES vote on Measure 119.

Signed,

Congresswoman Val Hoyle
State Treasurer Tobias Read
former State Rep. Maxine Dexter (Portland), *nominee for Congressional District 3*
Senator Chris Gorsek (Gresham)
Rep. Dan Rayfield (Corvallis), *former Speaker of the House and nominee for Attorney General*
Rep. Ben Bowman (Tigard), *House Democratic Leader*
Rep. Farrah Chaichi (Beaverton/Aloha)
Rep. Dacia Grayber (Tigard)
Rep. Zach Hudson (Gresham)
Rep. Travis Nelson (Portland)
Rep. Khanh Pham (Portland)
Rep. Jules Walters (Tualatin/West Linn)

(This information furnished by Dan Clay, Chief Petitioner.)

Argument in Favor

Never before have we had an opportunity to extend the freedom to unionize to cannabis workers at the ballot!

Going forward, Oregon's cannabis workers need these freedoms to unionize and be protected when they do so. To help elevate their voices and concerns when it comes to issues like worker safety, wages, and holding employers accountable.

Give Measure 119 a YES vote!

You have read the accounts of unsafe working conditions and the lack of voice that cannabis workers have in their workplaces. Up to now, ambiguities in federal labor law have made it difficult for employees to exercise their freedom to unionize. Never again should we allow that to be the case.

Going forward, Measure 119 will enshrine the freedom of cannabis workers to unionize in the state licensing process. To get a license for cannabis retail or processing from the OLCC would require a labor peace agreement if Measure 119 passes.

Let workers decide for themselves if they want to exercise their freedom to unionize!

You have the power to help make this a reality with a YES vote.

Down the road, let's look back and know that we did the right thing.

—----------

(Now read the first word of each sentence to hear what Measure 119 will never do.)

(This information furnished by Michael Selvaggio, on behalf of UFCW Local 555.)

Argument in Favor

OREGON AFL-CIO URGES SUPPORT OF MEASURE 119 WITH A YES VOTE

The Oregon AFL-CIO is the statewide federation of labor unions representing over 300,000 working Oregonians. We are workers from every community in Oregon. We are nurses, firefighters, educators, school employees, grocery workers, construction workers, steelworkers, and many more. We clock in everyday to make Oregon run.

Oregon AFL-CIO understands firsthand the transformative impact of union membership on workers. A union contract means increased and standardized wages, strengthened worker protections, and a voice on the job. Unions can help workers navigate grievances and discrimination at work, and how to advocate for themselves and their coworkers on the job. Union membership also leads to increased and protected healthcare and pension benefits, ensuring that workers can invest in their families.

Oregon AFL-CIO wholeheartedly supports Measure 119, which will amend the licensure process and protect cannabis workers' ability to organize free from retaliation from employers. Cannabis workers face exploitation and discrimination at work, and currently have few avenues to advocate for themselves. Protecting their right to organize with a union would give them the ability to fight back, and create a safer workplace and a strong career path for cannabis workers across Oregon.

Policy that strengthens the rights of workers in the cannabis industry is long overdue in Oregon. We strongly urge your "yes" vote.

A YES VOTE FOR MEASURE 119 IS A VOTE FOR WORKERS

(This information furnished by Dan Clay, on behalf of the Oregon AFL-CIO.)

Argument in Favor

IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE 119

My name is Madison Walters, and I am one of the chief petitioners for Measure 119.

In my day job, I work as a political liaison for United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555, which represents Oregon workers in the grocery, retail, manufacturing, and healthcare industries. UFCW 555 has supported other cannabis workers who have attempted to organize in the past, though unfortunately, those campaigns are difficult due to employers' misclassification, worker retaliation, and other union-busting techniques.

I'm fortunate to see "the union difference" at work every day– how having someone in your corner makes a tremendous impact on your life. Whether it's dealing with a dispute at work, navigating a pay issue, or simply investing in your future with a pension plan, being a union member improves workers' lives in the short term and the long term, by safeguarding their livelihood and their future.

The right to organize must be protected. And thankfully, for most workers it is— but not for all. Critically, Oregon's cannabis workers face incredible challenges when they attempt to organize– including facing retaliation from employers that puts their jobs at risk. We've brought Measure 119 to the ballot to address this issue.

Measure 119 is modeled after policy that has been successfully implemented in other states that have legalized cannabis– like California, New Jersey, and New York. We know that it works– state agencies have been able to accommodate the process, businesses have been able to successfully establish agreements, and workers have been able to utilize this tool to advocate for themselves and their peers.

Please join me, Oregon's elected leaders, our state's largest labor organizations, and a number of responsible cannabis business owners who all see the benefit of a vibrant and empowered workforce and a more accountable cannabis industry.

Thank you,

—Madison Walters

(This information furnished by Madison Walters.)

Argument in Favor

The Democratic Party of Oregon Urges a YES vote for Measure 119

Dear Voters,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Democratic Party of Oregon to urge you to vote YES on Measure 119, to ensure that cannabis industry employees have the right to form a union.

As advocates for fairness and workers' rights, we believe that this measure is crucial in ensuring that employees in the cannabis industry have the opportunity to improve their working conditions and protect their rights through collective bargaining.

By allowing cannabis industry employees to form a union, we can foster a more equitable workplace and empower the workforce to voice their concerns regarding wages, benefits, and working conditions. This measure aligns with our party's commitment to promoting labor rights and fair treatment for all workers.

Our solidarity with this cause will contribute to creating a more just and equitable working environment for workers in this emerging industry.

Thank you for registering to vote and don't forget to get your ballots in by Tuesday, November 5!

— Dr. Rosa Colquitt

State Party Chair of the Democratic Party of Oregon

(This information furnished by Dan Clay, on behalf of the Democratic Party of Oregon.)

Argument in Favor

PROGRESSIVE AND PRO-LABOR ORGANIZATIONS AGREE:

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 119

Measure 119 protects workers' freedom to join a union. Under Measure 119, cannabis retailers and processors would be required to recognize workers' right to decide for themselves whether or not to unionize. This helps protect these workers from the types of misclassifications and legal challenges that exist in cannabis workplaces.

Measure 119 has a simple, progressive premise: Workers should be able to organize their workplaces if they so choose. It does not require them to form a union, but allows that as an option.

Measure 119 has earned endorsements of support from organizations across the state, including:

United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555
Democratic Party of Oregon
Oregon Working Families Party
American Federation of Teachers - Oregon
Oregon AFSCME
Oregon AFL-CIO
East County Rising
Oregon Center for Public Policy

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... and many more. Check out the full list of endorsements at www.voteyes119.org

(This information furnished by Dan Clay, Chief Petitioner.)

Argument in Favor

In the United States, we value two fundamental principles: free speech and fairness. The Freedom For Cannabis Workers To Unionize Measure boldly embraces those two principles.

By large majorities, people believe that every worker should have the right of free speech when they seek to join a union. And that every worker should be treated fairly when they seek to join a union.

As a 40-year union leader and proud union member, and the candidate for Portland City Council District 2 with the most labor support of any candidate in the city, I have seen how a multi-billion, union-busting industry, working at the behest of companies, tramples on those two principles, in our state and across the nation.

With Measure 119, Oregonians, are saying: not here, not now, not ever. And we are acting, with this measure, in a most simple, straightforward way: as a condition of doing business, a company applying for a license to start or run a cannabis business in Oregon has to agree to a "labor peace agreement".

To promise to uphold the basic principles of free speech and fairness.

Licensing isn't some vague concept: it really represents our power, as the people, to set out conditions under which companies use our community to make money.

Every successful movement in history—civil rights, women, LGBTQ and, indeed, the unions who organized millions of workers in the first half of the 20th Century— always used creativity to bring about justice.

Measure 119 is in that spirit. Vote for Measure 119—and embrace free speech and fairness

I made a short video here to explain the beauty of Measure 119:
www.bit.ly/Tasini-on-119

Jonathan Tasini, Candidate, Portland City Council, District 2
www.JonathanTasini.com

(This information furnished by Michael Selvaggio, on behalf of Jonathan Tasini.)

Argument in Favor

Measure 119 takes the high road toward shared prosperity

All workers should be able to choose whether to join a union without having to worry about losing their jobs or suffering retaliation from their employers. Unfortunately, many employers use intimidation and other tactics when their workers seek to form a union. Cannabis workers are no strangers to those unfair practices.

Measure 119 protects the right to organize for cannabis workers. The cannabis industry employs many Oregonians. These workers, like everyone else, have bills to pay and families to feed. Like all other workers, they deserve the right to choose whether to form a union without fear of retaliation.

Measure 119 safeguards health and safety standards for workers and consumers. No one should feel unsafe going to work. Cannabis workers deserve to come home safe after a day's work, just like any other Oregonian. With Measure 119, workers can create a culture of safety while making sure cannabis products meet high standards.

Labor Peace Agreements are not a new idea. Measure 119 protects the right to organize by requiring cannabis retail and processing businesses to enter into Labor Peace Agreements preventing employers from interfering in the decision of workers whether to form a union. Other states, including California and New York, have established similar requirements for cannabis businesses.

Measure 119 shows Oregonians are serious about protecting the right to organize. Unions ensure that the economy works for everyone. When unions are strong, prosperity flows broadly. While a large majority of the public favors unions, union membership hovers near an all-time low. This is because decades of anti-union activity has gone largely unchecked by the federal government, leaving states to step in and protect worker rights.

Like all workers, cannabis workers in Oregon deserve to choose whether to form a union. Protecting the right to organize is the high road to creating an economy that works for all Oregonians.

VOTE YES on MEASURE 119

(This information furnished by Dan Clay, on behalf of the Oregon Center for Public Policy.)

Argument in Favor

******* SUPPORT THE FREEDOM OF WORKERS TO UNIONIZE *******

Vote YES on Measure 119

Cannabis workers in Oregon have been marginalized because gaps and ambiguity in federal labor laws make it easy for employers to intimidate and retaliate against employees who try to unionize.

The best means of ensuring that workers in cannabis have a voice on the job and can share in the rewards of a newly legalized industry is to safeguard and strengthen the fundamental rights of workers to organize collectively in a union. Existing unionized cannabis businesses in states with legal cannabis provide examples of how formalizing workers' rights and participation in company decisionmaking has led to both business success and more remunerative jobs for those in the industry.

Access to workplace benefits varies greatly by union status:

Percent of workers with Health Insurance in:
Non-union jobs:

66%
Union-represented jobs:

94%

Percent of workers with Retirement Benefits in:
Non-union jobs:

65%
Union-represented jobs:

91%

Percent of workers with Sick Leave in:
Non-union jobs:

72%
Union-represented jobs:

86%

Source: National Compensation Survey from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS 2019).

******* UNIONIZATION MATTERS! *******

And Measure 119 will help ensure these rights for workers in the cannabis industry.

Vote YES on MEASURE 119

(This information furnished by Michael Selvaggio, UFCW Local 555.)

Argument in Favor

A VOTE FOR MEASURE 119 IS A VOTE FOR WORKERS

I believe that every worker in Oregon should have the right to organize if they so choose, without having to fear retaliation from their bosses. Oregon prides itself on being a state that prioritizes workers, with the fourth highest union membership in the country. It's common sense that we ensure those rights are protected for workers in the cannabis industry, too.

Measure 119 follows laws that are already in place in California, New York, Connecticut, and other states, and cannabis businesses who are already doing right by their workers won't be affected. It's time to hold these bad actors accountable and give cannabis workers a voice.

Oregon's cannabis workers have been exploited for far too long. I'm voting YES on measure 119 because I believe that workers deserve to have a voice on the job.

Vote YES on Measure 119!

(This information furnished by Madison Walters.)

Argument in Favor

MEASURE 119 IS ABOUT THE FREEDOM TO DECIDE TO JOIN A UNION OR NOT.

It's simple:
Measure 119 protects cannabis workers who want to organize a union.

Workers should have the freedom to form a union if they so choose, without fear of retaliation from their employer.

Many cannabis employers have tried to skirt unionization laws, either by misclassifying employees or even asserting that the law doesn't even apply because of federal ambiguities.

MEASURE 119 gives workers the option to **elevate their voices for**:

- **SAFER WORKPLACES:** Because the cannabis industry remains unregulated in many ways, workplace safety is a serious concern — in fact several workers have already died due to easily preventable accidents. This measure will help business owners and their employees to work together to create a safe workplace.
- **FAIR LIVING WAGE JOBS:** Big corporations are taking advantage of inflation, doing everything they can to gouge employees to maximize profits for corporate executives and shareholders. This measure will help even the playing field, giving cannabis workers the legal protections needed to form a union that can fight for livable wages and benefits and common-sense workplace safety standards.
- **STOPPING BLACK MARKET SALES:** Some employers in the cannabis industry are paying their employees with their product rather than money. This leads to our streets and neighborhoods being flooded with black market marijuana that finds its way into our kids' schools. This measure will add needed oversight to help prevent this from happening because those workers will have someone to fight on their behalf.

Measure 119 does not require employees to join a union — It protects employees who do decide to do so. Many cannabis businesses are doing things RIGHT, and they shouldn't have to struggle against competitors who cut corners and exploit their workforce.

PROTECT WORKERS' FREEDOM TO UNIONIZE: VOTE YES on 119!

(This information furnished by Michael Selvaggio, UFCW Local 555.)

Argument in Favor

EAST COUNTY RISING SUPPORTS MEASURE 119

VOTE YES FOR WORKING FAMILIES

East County Rising is a grassroots organization focused on activating the historically underrepresented and underserved voters of East Multnomah county including East Portland, Gresham, Troutdale, Fairview, Wood Village, Corbett. We provide community and organizing opportunities for east county residents to participate in electoral work– especially on issues that impact our communities.

When the voters of east county come together, we create incredible gains for working families across Oregon. East County Rising is proud to endorse Measure 119, which protects the rights of cannabis workers to organize with a union.

Protecting workers' rights not only improves the livelihood of individual workers, it also protects our community's ability to thrive. Fair wages, access to health care and retirement benefits, and workplace safety– all are vital to the wellbeing and economic empowerment of working people. Unions help to safeguard these rights for working families.

Measure 119 safeguards and strengthens cannabis workers' right to organize and form a union.

We strongly urge your support with a "YES" vote on Measure 119.

(This information furnished by Dan Clay, on behalf of East County Rising.)

Argument in Favor

YES on MEASURE 119

Cannabis businessowners describe the benefits of unionization

The concept behind Measure 119 was first proposed as HB 3183 in Oregon's 2023 Legislative Session. Here's what some Oregon cannabis businessowners had to say about HB 3183:

> "I've seen first-hand employees come from other establishments where they were exploited and robbed of their safety, security, economic freedom and right to organize. We as an industry long for recognition on par with other industries, and this is one stone along that pathway. ... I have found that when I look at our employees as partners

moving toward a shared goal as opposed to yet another adversary to overcome, we are better positioned to succeed."
(Source: Oregon Legislative Information System: 2023 Regular Session, HB 3183 Testimony)

"I believe that Oregon policymakers should affirm their commitment to high road employment practices so the pre-existing adult use cannabis market can continue to operate with rules for legal cannabis. A cannabis licensing process that rewards responsible employers that agree to create quality, sustaining jobs is good for the safety, health, and welfare of cannabis consumers, workers, and industry. ... My business is proud to be one of those model employers in Oregon, and an LPA requirement ensures we operate on a fair playing field."
(Source: Letter to Legislators re: HB 3183, February 25, 2023)

Vote YES to ensure that cannabis workers have the freedom to unionize!

(This information furnished by Michael Selvaggio, UFCW Local 555.)

Argument in Favor

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK – MEASURE 119 PAVES THE WAY FOR EQUITY IN THE CANNABIS INDUSTRY

I strongly believe in paying workers fair wages, and I especially believe we need to close discriminatory wage gaps that result in women and people of color making less than their male, white coworkers for the same jobs.

Research shows that unionization is one of the best ways to raise wages for workers, and particularly for workers of color. Because a collectively bargained contract is setting strong standards for fair and equitable pay, workers in a union are guaranteed to get their fair share.

It's also important to know that the kind of work that cannabis workers do– manufacturing and processing of agricultural products, not to mention retail sales– happen to be the same sectors where the wage gap is wider.

According to the Environmental Policy Institute, union workers of color earn 26.4%–32.4% higher wages than their non-union counterparts in processing jobs. For workers in retail, union workers of color are earning 10.8%–13.5% more than similar nonunion retail employees. This kind of pay difference is life-changing for workers– meaning the difference between living comfortably or living paycheck to paycheck.

I believe that every worker deserves the freedom to choose whether they'd like to join a union. But for our most vulnerable workers, the data makes it clear how critical access to a union can be. Measure 119 is giving cannabis workers the freedom to organize which is why I am voting yes, and encourage you to **VOTE YES for MEASURE 119.**

(This information furnished by Madison Walters.)

Argument in Favor

Vote YES on Measure 119: Protect workers' FREEDOM TO UNIONIZE.

Workers should have the freedom to form a union if they so choose. This measure ensures that Oregon's cannabis industry employees can exercise that freedom without fear of retaliation from their employer.

SOME CANNABIS EMPLOYERS ARE CHALLENGING THE APPLICABILITY OF EXISTING WORKER PROTECTIONS:

Because cannabis is still a federally-controlled substance, some businesses are trying to argue that certain federal laws protecting employees don't apply to the cannabis industry. (See attempts in *Kenny v Helix TCS, Inc.* and *Greenwood v. Green Leaf Lab, LLC*)

Even though we hope these efforts are unsuccessful, it can be difficult for an individual employee to hire an attorney to fight these attempts when they come up. That leaves these employees with fewer ways to hold their employers accountable when it comes to issues like safety or wage theft —in fact several workers have already died due to easily preventable accidents.

DON'T LET OREGON GET LEFT BEHIND:

States like California, New York, and New Jersey have already had very similar laws in place for several years. As part of the state licensing process for cannabis businesses, these states require agreements to be in place that ensure the employer will remain neutral if their employees are thinking of unionizing.

FOR SOME WORKERS, IT CAN'T WAIT:

Because the cannabis industry remains unregulated, workplace safety and wage theft are serious concerns for many workers. This ensures that workers who want to unionize to have a bigger voice in their workplace are protected when they do.

Measure 119 does not require employees to join a union — It protects employees who do decide to do so.

PROTECT WORKERS' FREEDOM TO UNIONIZE: VOTE YES on 119!

(This information furnished by Dan Clay, Chief Petitioner.)

Argument in Favor

YES on MEASURE 119

The same policy is working well in other states!

Three other states have labor agreement requirements for cannabis businesses that are very similar to Measure 119's requirements:

- **California** *(CA Bus. & Prof. Code § 26051.5)*
- **New York** *(Public Health Law PBH § 3365)*
- **New Jersey** *(N.J. Stat. Ann. § 24:6I-7.2)*

Here's what a cannabis owner in New Jersey had to say about the idea of requiring labor peace agreements for cannabis businesses when the policy was in front of the Legislature last year:

"Allow me to share my model; as a part of our business development and pro-forma we chose to create family sustaining cannabis careers by incorporating true living wages and benefits that increase the standard of living for our team members, jobs that lead to economic empowerment for their communities, reducing poverty, reducing inequality and boosting morale. I learned many lessons while serving in the Marines, two of them were to take care of your troops and to lead by example, these are words that I live by as a cannabis business owner.

"To be clear a labor peace agreement is not the same thing as a collective bargaining agreement and the only thing that a Labor Peace Agreement does guarantee is to provide cannabis workers with an option to make a decision amongst themselves without interference, outside pressure or fear of reprisal. Sounds fair and reasonable to me."

— Osbert Orduña, CEO, The Cannabis Place 420 Corp

(Source: Oregon Legislative Information System: 2023 Regular Session, HB 3183 Testimony)

Vote YES to ensure that cannabis workers have the freedom to unionize!

(This information furnished by Michael Selvaggio, UFCW Local 555.)

Argument in Favor

MEASURE 119 IS ABOUT WORKER SAFETY.
... AND WORKERS CAN'T WAIT!

Many cannabis workers are regularly in contact with hazardous chemicals or work in enclosed spaces with high-capacity electrical writing and watering systems.

Here are statements from three cannabis workers whose names are redacted:

- **"One time we were told by a firefighter we needed to leave, and management still told us afterward we should have stayed."**
- **"We had to move extension cords out from under drips, only to find later that management moved the cords directly back to the same wet spot."**
- **"[Employer Redacted] fails to make sure employees are given the tools to safely handle chemicals. The chemical shower has been sitting on the shelf for months now."**

These concerns were reported by OPB back in 2022 when Cannabis Nation employees were attempting to unionize:

> **"workers' primary concern is safety, and while the company has addressed some safety concerns — such as training in the handling of pesticides — others remain. ... The company has not been conducting regular fire drills, even though the electricity they're using and the tight working conditions create a potential fire hazard."**
>
> *(Source: "Workers at Gresham cannabis operation walk out, say company blocking unionization efforts", Oregon Public Broadcasting, May 2, 2022.)*

Although there are some workplace safety regulations in place, the state often lacks the resources necessary to enforce reported violations in a timely manner, and employees who do report violations are often subject to retaliation.

Collectively bargained standards, on the other hand, allow a workplace union to enforce such standards as a contractual issue. Even the knowledge that the enforcement mechanism is a contractual matter can help spur safer workplace practices. Measure 119 will ensure that this is an available option for employees.

This helps keep workers safe and relieves already over-stretched state enforcement agencies.

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 119 FOR WORKER SAFETY!

(This information furnished by Michael Selvaggio, UFCW Local 555.)

Argument in Favor

!!! WORKERS SHOULD HAVE THE FREEDOM TO UNIONIZE !!!

Vote YES on Measure 119!

Workers should have the freedom to form a union if they so choose. This measure ensures that Oregon's cannabis industry employees can exercise that freedom without fear of retaliation from their employer.

WHY MEASURE 119 IS NEEDED:

Because cannabis is still a federally-controlled substance, many cannabis businesses are arguing that some federal laws protecting employees don't apply to them. This means that workers who try to form a union might face being disciplined or fired, or that the business simply refuses to recognize their union.

This leaves these employees with few ways to hold their employers accountable when it comes to issues like safety or wage theft —in fact several workers have already died due to easily preventable accidents.

WHY THIS IS THE RIGHT SOLUTION:

States like California, New York, and New Jersey have already had very similar laws in place for several years. As part of the state licensing process for cannabis businesses, these states require agreements to be in place that ensure the employer will remain neutral if their employees are thinking of unionizing.

Measure 119 does not require employees to join a union — It protects employees who do decide to do so.

WHY NOW:

Because the cannabis industry remains unregulated, workplace safety and wage theft are serious concerns for many workers. This ensures that workers who want to unionize to have a bigger voice in their workplace are protected when they do.

PROTECT WORKERS' FREEDOM TO UNIONIZE: VOTE YES on 119!

(This information furnished by Fiona E Yau-Luu, Chief Petitioner.)

Argument in Opposition

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges NO on Measure 119

Oregon's Illegal Marijuana Industry is Thriving at Our Expense

"In Southern Oregon, Illegal Cannabis Has Overwhelmed the Legal Industry" – Willamette Week, 12/20/23

Legal marijuana sales have fallen nearly 20% since 2021. – The Oregonian, 2/25/24

Oregonians were promised that if they legalized marijuana, it would make it legal, safe, and would eliminate the criminal black market.

Instead, the black market is bigger than ever, driving legal shops out of business.

In April 2024, a massive $6 million illegal marijuana farm was busted by police that ran across six Oregon counties (Clatsop, Columbia, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Polk).

Measure 119 Will Make It Worse!

Oregon's legal shops pay high taxes, have extreme red tape, and cannot compete against untaxed and unregulated illegal pot farms that uses human-trafficked, slave-like labor.

If passed, Measure 119 would likely cause labor costs to spike and hurting a fragile industry already in decline, giving more power to illegal street drug dealers.

Shop owners and staff should work out their concerns without using the government to choose a favorite side.

Don't empower the illegal drug trade with Measure 119.
VOTE NO!

Visit us on our daily political news website
OregonWatchdog.com

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years

(This information furnished by Jason D Williams, Taxpayer Association of Oregon.)

Vote!

Nov
5

Your ballot must be received or mailed with a USPS postmark by 8 pm on November 5

Mailing your ballot? Keep the stamp!
No postage is needed if you're using the return envelope that came with your ballot.

Not near a post office? Return your ballot to the county elections office or any official drop box.

County Elections Offices are open on Election Day from 7 am to 8 pm

To find the nearest official drop box vist or call

oregonvotes.gov/dropbox

1 866 673 8683
se habla español

1 800 735 2900
for the hearing impaired

TTY

Did You Know?

- The county compares the signature on the ballot envelope to the signatures in the voter's registration record. They do this for every signature on every ballot.
- County personnel who verify signatures on ballots receive training in forensic handwriting analysis.
- If you forget to sign your ballot envelope, or your signature does not match, the county will notify you. You will have 21 days after the election to sign it or prove it was you who signed it.

Who can register to vote?

To register you must be:

- → A US Citizen
- → A resident of Oregon
- → At least 16 years old

If you are not yet 18 years of age, you will not receive a ballot until an election occurs on or after your 18th birthday.

How do I register to vote?

Register to vote

- → Online at **oregonvotes.gov/register**
- → By mailing your completed registration card to your county elections office.
- → By completing a registration card in person at any county elections office, the Secretary of State's Office, and some state agencies such as the DMV.

Do I need to update my registration?

Update your registration if you move, change your name, signature or mailing address, or want to change or select a political party.

You can provide the new information online at **oregonvotes.gov/myvote** or by completing and returning a voter registration card to your county elections official.

Do I need to provide I.D.?

You must provide your valid Oregon Driver's License, Permit or ID number.

If you do not have valid Oregon ID, provide the last four digits of your Social Security number.

If you do not have a valid Oregon ID or Social Security number you can find a list of acceptable alternative identification online at **oregonvotes.gov.**

What is the deadline to register?

To vote in the **November 5, 2024**, General Election, your completed registration card must be:

- → postmarked by Tuesday, **October 15;** or
- → delivered to a county elections office or voter registration agency (e.g., DMV) by Tuesday, **October 15**.

If you register to vote online, your registration must be submitted by 11:59 pm on **October 15**.

Do I have to pick a political party?

No, you do not. If you do not select a party participating in the primary, the ballot you receive for a primary election will only include nonpartisan offices and ballot measures. All offices will appear on your general election ballot.

Address Confidentiality Program

The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) provides participants with a legal substitute address and a mail-forwarding service. Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking are provided with a substitute address to use on public records instead of their real address.

Individuals whose personal or family safety may be in danger if their home address is available as a public record may register to vote with confidentiality protections by applying for the Address Confidentiality Program.

To apply to the Address Confidentiality Program, you must work with a victim advocate who has been designated as an Application Assistant by the Attorney General. For more information or to find an Application Assistant near you call **888-559-9090** or visit **www.doj.state.or.us/acp**.

Participation in the ACP by itself does not guarantee anyone's safety. ACP staff do not provide threat-assessment or safety-planning and are not allowed to offer legal advice.

To register to vote or update your registration status, return this form by mail or use online voter resources at:
oregonvotes.gov/register

Qualifications

Are you a citizen of the United States of America? ☐ yes ☐ no

Are you at least 16 years of age? ☐ yes ☐ no

If you mark no in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form.

Personal Information **required information*

last name* first* middle

Oregon residence address, city and zip code (include apt. or space number)*

date of birth (month/day/year)* county of residence

phone email

mailing address, including city, state and zip code (required if different than residence)

Oregon Driver License/ID number

Provide a valid **Oregon Driver License, Permit or ID**:

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

☐ *I do not have a valid **Oregon Driver License/Permit/ID**. The last 4 digits of my Social Security Number (SSN) are:*

x x x - x x - ☐☐☐☐

☐ *I do not have a valid Oregon Driver License/Permit/ID or a SSN. I have attached a copy of **acceptable identification**.*

Political Party

☐ Not a member of a party

☐ Constitution
☐ Democratic
☐ Independent
☐ Libertarian
☐ No Labels
☐ Pacific Green
☐ Progressive
☐ Republican
☐ Working Families
☐ Other _____

Signature *I swear or affirm that I am qualified to be an elector and I have told the truth on this registration.*

sign here _____ date today _____

If you sign this card and know it to be false, you can be fined up to $125,000 and/or imprisoned for up to 5 years.

Registration Updates *Complete this section if you are updating your information.*

previous registration name previous county and state

home address on previous registration date of birth (month/day/year)

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