

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES, REDISTRICTING, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

March 09, 2001
1:30 PM

Hearing Room D
Tape 38

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Carl Wilson, Chair
Rep. Richard Devlin, Vice-Chair
Rep. Dan Doyle, Vice-Chair
Rep. Dan Gardner
Rep. Steve March
Rep. Bruce Starr
Rep. Joanne Verger
Rep. Cheryl Walker

MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. Bill Garrard

STAFF PRESENT: Cara Filsinger, Committee Administrator
Jennifer Goodman, Committee Assistant

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: HB 2583 – PUBLIC HEARING & WORK SESSION
HB 2584 – PUBLIC HEARING

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

<u>TAPE/#</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Comments</u>
TAPE 38, A		
004	Chair Wilson	Calls the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. States that the committee will not be hearing SB 215 or HB 2129. Opens a public hearing on HB 2583.
<u>HB 2583 – PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
017	Fred Neal	Elections Division. Testifies in support of HB 2583. Explains that this bill was requested by the Secretary of State's Office and the Oregon Association of County Clerks to clarify the intent of the statute enacted last session which requires the inactivation of a voter who has failed to vote for five years. Explains HB 2583.
046	Vicki Ervin	Oregon Association of County Clerks. Testifies that their request is a clarification so that the division does not send repeat requests to voters.
050	Rep. Devlin	Asks if there is any pending litigation on the behalf of voters who were identified to be inactive in the last election.
053	Neal	Replies that they are very close to a consent decree in a Multnomah County case.
061	Ervin	States that there are no new cases but there was one case in Multnomah County in which a citizen signed a petition when they were identified as inactive.
072	Rep. Starr	Asks if once the inactive voter votes they become an active voter.
073	Ervin	Replies in the affirmative.
074	Rep. Starr	Asks if the inactive voter receives a ballot.
076	Ervin	Responds in the negative.
081	Chair Wilson	Closes the public hearing on HB 2583 and opens a work session

on HB 2583.

HB 2583 – WORK SESSION

084 Rep. Devlin

MOTION: Moves HB 2583 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.

087

VOTE: 8-0

AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye.

EXCUSED: 1 - Garrard

Chair Wilson

The motion CARRIES.

Rep. DEVLIN will lead discussion on the floor.

095 Chair Wilson

Closes the work session on HB 2583 and opens a public hearing on HB 2584.

HB 2584 – PUBLIC HEARING

099 Fred Neal

Elections Division. Reviews HB 2584. States that the provision for this was inadvertently repealed and they would like to reinstitute it and add vote by mail.

140 Chair Wilson

Asks what problem this bill attempts to solve.

150 Neal

Explains that the new language allows for observers in the vote tallying process. Adds that the bill also deletes the prohibition to display political buttons.

173 Rep. Devlin

States that this piece of legislation was included in a bill passed out last week.

176 Neal

States that this is the same statute and therefore a parallel.

Reviews deletions. Adds that the bill would require the prominent display of a sign stating that it is an unofficial ballot drop site. Submits and discusses amendments (**EXHIBIT A**).

221 Vicki Ervin

Oregon Association of County Clerks. Explains the origination of amendment on page 3 subsection 18. Explains the bill.

258 Chair Wilson

Asks about nursing home collections.

263 Ervin

Responds that there are many scenarios to discuss. Adds that nursing home residents receive staff assistance. Believes that there are already protections in law to discourage people from abusing the collection of ballots.

279 Chair Wilson

Asks how the 100 feet radius is measured.

286 Ervin

Responds that the 100 feet is already defined and in use.

293 Rep. Doyle

Asks about the amendment on page 3 paragraph 18. Adds that “the location” does not refer to anyplace. Believes there is a problem with the grammar.

317 Ervin

Responds by thanking him for pointing out the error. Adds the language was left out in this draft of amendments. Continues to state that on line 8 after the word “shall” would insert “establish a location to.”

331 Rep. Doyle

Asks if there is already a law that states off-site drops to be official.

340 Ervin

Responds in the affirmative. Adds that they are designate under ORS 254.470.

346 Rep. Doyle

Asks if the drop boxes will be easily identifiable as official and unofficial.

352 Ervin

Responds in the affirmative. Adds that the official boxes are well advertised.

359 Rep. Doyle

Asks about her use of the word ‘probably’ when speaking of unofficial dropboxes being identified.

365 Ervin

Responds that signs are not required to use the same language on official boxes.

370 Chair Wilson

Asks them to bring back the amendments. Closes the public

hearing on HB 2584. States that he would like to bring back SB 215 next week. Adds that HB 2129 will probably come back some time next week. Adjourns the meeting at 2:12 p.m.

Submitted By,

Reviewed By,

Jennifer Goodman,
Committee Assistant

Cara Filsinger,
Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A – HB 2584, proposed amendments, Fred Neal, 1 p.