

House Bill 3404

Sponsored by Representative OLSON

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Provides procedures to store and account for unused ballots after election.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to ballots; amending ORS 253.045 and 254.483.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 254.483 is amended to read:

254.483. (1) Immediately after 8 p.m. on the day of an election[:], **the county clerk shall:**

(a) **Count all unused ballots;**

(b) **Record the number of unused ballots counted; and**

(c) **Seal or otherwise securely store the unused ballots.**

[(1) The county clerk shall destroy all unused absentee and regular ballots in the county clerk's possession.]

[(2) Each county shall provide for the security of, and shall account for, unused ballots.]

(2) The county clerk shall keep a log to account for the unused ballots. The log shall include:

(a) **A record of each instance in which an elections official accesses the unused ballots;**

(b) **The number of unused ballots taken from the supply; and**

(c) **The name of the elections official performing the task.**

(3) Not later than the 30th day after the election, the county clerk shall:

(a) **Count the remainder of the unused ballots sealed or stored under subsection (1) of this section;**

(b) **Record the number of remaining unused ballots counted; and**

(c) **Submit to the Secretary of State the log and all information recorded under this section.**

(4) If the county clerk's record shows that any unused ballots are missing or unaccounted for, the Secretary of State shall conduct an investigation to determine the reason for the discrepancy.

(5) The log and any information recorded under this section shall be made available to the public upon request.

(6) A count of unused ballots conducted under this section may not be conducted by individuals who are all members of the same political party.

(7) The county clerk shall destroy all unused absentee and regular ballots in the county clerk's possession not later than a date set by the Secretary of State by rule.

SECTION 2. ORS 253.045 is amended to read:

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 253.045. (1) The clerk shall print as many absentee ballots as may be necessary as soon as pos-
2 sible after receiving the information concerning candidates and measures to be voted on at an
3 election, but not later than the 45th day before the election.

4 (2) The clerk is responsible for the safekeeping and disposition of the ballots, and shall
5 [*destroy*] **treat** all unused ballots as [*soon as practicable after the election*] **described in ORS**
6 **254.483.**

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