

Oregon Voting Rights Act



The Process to Reform

PHASE I

Options to Initiate Reform



1

VOLUNTARY REFORM

- School districts, community college boards, and Education Service Districts (ESD) may choose to voluntarily reform their election methods to comply with the Oregon Voting Rights Act (OVRA).

ELECTOR NOTICE

2

- An elector from a protected class that resides within a qualifying district may file a notice to the subdivision.
- A notice must: 1) be in writing, 2) provide contact information, 3) identify affected protected class, and 4) propose a remedy to cure a violation.

3

COURT PROCESS

- A subdivision has 90 days to respond to a notice until an elector can proceed with legal action in circuit court.
- A court will require a subdivision that's out of compliance to reform their election method.

PHASE II

Community-Based Reform Process



Whether it's voluntary, from an elector notice, or a court order, a subdivision undergoing reform

must follow these procedures:



- A subdivision must provide public notice to its residents on the proposed remedy to comply with the OVRA.

- Hold two public hearings to receive public input regarding the composition of the district.



- Make publicly available the draft map(s) of the proposed boundaries and methodology used to create drafted map(s).

- Hold another round of public hearings to receive public input regarding proposed map(s) and election sequence.



- Make final map(s) and methodology used publicly available seven days before adoption.

ADDITIONAL POINTS

1. The County Clerk that administers a subdivision's election systems must be part of the reform process;
2. Claims may be filed by an elector in any circuit court within the qualifying district or Marion County;
3. Any altered map(s) under consideration must be publicly available; and
4. Reimbursements to elector(s) is only available if the district voluntarily reforms or via a court order.