

SB 251 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 2/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Provides that a county clerk or other filing officer is not required provide a secrecy envelop for a ballot if the Secretary of State has approved a different procedure to ensure secrecy. Authorizes county clerk to begin tallying any ballots received beginning seven days before date of election.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Current Oregon law requires that ballots must first be inserted into a secrecy envelop provided by the county clerk before being inserted into a larger envelope. Additionally, current law allows the county clerk to begin opening and tallying only ballots delivered by mail and received by the county clerk seven days before an election.

Senate Bill (SB) 251 eliminates the secrecy envelope requirement if the Secretary of State has approved a different procedure that provides substantially the same degree of secrecy. SB 251 also allows the county clerk to begin tallying any ballots received seven days before an election.