



MEMORANDUM

Prepared for: Oregon State Senate
Date: February 11, 2021
By: Leslie Porter, Analyst
Re: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments

LPRO: LEGISLATIVE POLICY AND RESEARCH OFFICE

PUBLIC RECORDS ADVOCATE

The Governor has appointed the following individual to serve as the Public Records Advocate subject to Senate confirmation.¹

Appointees

Todd Albert of Portland; New Appointment

Term

November 1, 2020 – October 31, 2024

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 192.461 \(2019\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Not required.

Statutory Requirements³

The advocate is appointed by the Governor from among a panel of three qualified individuals nominated by the Public Records Advisory Council and subject to confirmation by the Senate.⁴ The advocate must be a member in good standing of the Oregon State Bar. The advocate serves a four-year term and is eligible for reappointment. The advocate may be removed for cause by the Governor or upon motion of the Public Records Advisory Council with the consent of the Governor.

Duties and Authority

The advocate provides dispute resolution services, training, guidance, and advice to improve the administration of Oregon's public records law.⁵ The advocate must:⁶

¹ [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 and 171.565 \(2019\)](#).

² [ORS 244.050 \(2019\)](#).

³ [ORS 182.100 \(2019\)](#) for affirmative action policy and [ORS 236.115 \(2019\)](#) for diversity criteria.

⁴ [ORS 192.461 \(2019\)](#).

⁵ Public Records Advocate, *Home*, <https://www.oregon.gov/pr/ra/Pages/default.aspx> (last visited August 31, 2020).

⁶ [ORS 192.464 to 192.481 \(2019\)](#).

- provide facilitated dispute resolution services for disputes arising from state public records;
- provide training for state agencies and local governments on the requirements and best practices for processing and responding to public records requests and perform training sessions throughout the state; and
- serve as chair of the Public Records Advisory Council.

The advocate may:⁷

- provide facilitated dispute resolution services for disputes arising from city public records; and
- upon the written request of a state agency or local government, provide guidance and advice on matters pertaining to public records request processing and the disclosure and applicability of exemptions from disclosure of public records.

⁷ [ORS 192.464 to 192.475 \(2019\)](#).