

HB 2745 -1, -2, -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 3/4, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires voter registration card form and electronic voter registration system to allow a person the option to provide the person's race, ethnicity, and preferred language. Makes person's race, ethnicity, and preferred language, if provided, a public record and included on lists of electors. Makes provisions operative January 1, 2022. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Allowing information to be provided by voter
- Making race, ethnicity, and preferred language a public record
- Providing materials for voters in preferred languages
- Better outcomes meaning equal participation in democratic processes
- Use of data and who has access
- Eight states already asking for this information

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Excludes voter registration cards used at the Department of Transportation or any designated voter registration agency where the Secretary of State does not design, prepare, or distribute the cards. Adds collection of demographic information to elector notification sent after qualifying interaction.

-2 Replaces the measure. Requires voter registration card form and electronic voter registration system to allow a person to provide the person's race, ethnicity, and preferred language. Requires Secretary of State (SOS) to ensure form and system emphasize that providing demographic information is optional and that a qualified person may register to vote or update a registration to vote without providing the demographic information. Exempts person's race, ethnicity, and preferred language, if provided, from being a public record and from being included on statewide and county lists of electors. Allows SOS to disclose demographic information about electors to a culturally specific organization, community-based organization, public body, social service organization that does culturally competent work on social welfare issues, or a bona fide representative of the news media. Defines community-based and culturally specific organizations. Prohibits person receiving demographic information about electors to use information for commercial purposes or sell to candidates or political committees for political purposes. Requires SOS to publish list of each person who receives demographic information. Makes provisions operative January 1, 2022. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment sine die.

-3 Replaces the measure. Requires voter registration card form designed, prepared, or distribution by the Secretary of State (SOS) and electronic voter registration system to allow a person to provide the person's race, ethnicity, and preferred language. Requires SOS to ensure form and system emphasize that providing demographic information is optional and that a qualified person may register to vote or update a registration to vote without providing the demographic information. Adds optional collection of demographic information to elector notification sent after qualifying interaction with Department of Transportation. Exempts person's race, ethnicity, and preferred language, if provided, from being a public record and from being included on statewide

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and county lists of electors. Allows SOS to disclose demographic information about electors to a culturally specific organization, community-based organization, public body, social service organization that does culturally competent work on social welfare issues, or a bona fide representative of the news media. Defines community-based and culturally specific organizations. Prohibits person receiving demographic information about electors to use information for commercial purposes or to sell to candidates or political committees for political purposes. Requires SOS to publish list of each person who receives demographic information. Makes provisions operative January 1, 2022. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment sine die.

BACKGROUND:

Oregonians may register to vote in one of four ways: online at My Vote; by returning a voter registration form by mail; in person at a county elections office; or automatically after a qualifying interaction with the Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division (Oregon Motor Voter).

Any person may request a list of registered voters. The list may include a registered voter's name, party affiliation, residence or mailing address, and precinct name or number. Individuals who are not yet 18, but are registered to vote will not be included in any public list until 60 days before the election that will occur on or after the individual's 18th birthday.

House Bill 2745 requires the voter registration card form and electronic voter registration system to allow a person the option to provide the person's race, ethnicity, and preferred language and makes that information a public record.