

House Bill 2685

Sponsored by Representative RAYFIELD (Pre-session filed.)

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**.

Requires that Secretary of State provide official Military or Overseas Elector Ballots for elections held on date of primary election that permit military or overseas electors to rank candidates by order of preference.

Applies to elections held on date of primary election occurring on or after January 1, 2024.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the use of ranked ballots at elections.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2021 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 253.500 to**
5 **253.640.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) The Secretary of State shall by rule design official Military or Overseas**
7 **Elector Ballots for use in elections held on the date of a primary election.**

8 **(2) Notwithstanding ORS 253.545, 254.115 and 254.125, the ballots designed under this**
9 **section shall be the official election ballots provided to military or overseas electors for each**
10 **election held on the date of a primary election.**

11 **(3) The ballots designed under this section shall be identical to the official election ballots**
12 **provided to electors for an election held on the date of a primary election under ORS 254.470**
13 **(3), except that the ballot must allow an elector to vote for the candidates for all offices**
14 **listed on the ballot by ranking the candidates in order of choice. The number of allowable**
15 **rankings shall be determined by the secretary by rule, but shall permit an elector to:**

16 **(a) Vote for only one candidate; and**

17 **(b) Rank no fewer than four candidates.**

18 **(4) A vote for a candidate that is cast on a ballot designed under this section shall be**
19 **tallied as one vote for the highest ranked candidate that the elector voted for who has not**
20 **withdrawn from the election under ORS 249.170.**

21 **(5) The secretary and county clerks shall ensure that each elector who receives a ballot**
22 **designed under this section also receives a detailed description of how:**

23 **(a) To rank candidates; and**

24 **(b) The ballot will be tallied.**

25 **SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2021 Act applies to elections held on the date of a primary**
26 **election that occur on or after January 1, 2024.**

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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.