



*The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 101-year-old grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.*

March 9, 2021

To: [Senator Rob Wagner](#), Chair  
[Senate Committee on Rules](#)

Re: **SB 27** – numerous Secretary of State elections clarifications–**Support**

The League of Women Voters believes that the election process is the foundation of our representative form of government. Efficient and economical government requires coordination. SB 27 addresses several disparate elections considerations:

**Change chief petitioner residential address to city and state** on petition cover sheets.

The League strongly supports the public right to know. It is helpful to know if initiative chief petitioners are Oregonians and this would still be clear by listing their city and state on petition cover sheets. Chief petitioner residential addresses have been listed next to the intended submission address, inefficiently confusing some signature gatherers who misdirected deliveries. Let's use "city and state" here.

**District board openings** must be announced publicly. Elections officials must deliver the board positions open, the candidate filing deadline, and election date:

- to newspapers, which shall print this once, right after the filing deadline.
- **AND/OR** posted on county websites for at least a week
- **OR** mail, prepaid, to each district elector

The voter's right to be informed should realistically include posting this information online, preferably in multiple sites, for efficiency, economy, and good contemporary business practice.

**"Ballot measure and receipt of measure title"** would be inserted into "notice of election". The League believes that ballot titles should use clear, concise language and recommends publicizing this information.

**Candidacy signature requirement definition changes** by switching to the most recent presidential campaign from the most recent general election. The signature requirement for filing *by petition* would still be calculated at 1% of the district's voter turnout. This would generally increase the threshold but would probably still not reach the League position:

*The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports the constitutional right of Oregon citizens to propose or revise statutes through the direct initiative process. The League supports requiring a number of valid signatures not less than six (6) percent of the total number of votes cast for all candidates for governor at the last election at which a governor was elected for a term of four years.*

Vector Control Districts officials are appointed and election clarification is not needed here.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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