

Madam Chair Smith Warner,
Vice-Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Holvey and committee members,

Oregonians for Fair Elections opposes HB2499 ascl stated in the public hearing today,

After today's hearing it occurred to me that HB2499 would most likely violate HIPPA laws and financial disclosure laws. Just in review of a HIPPA basic statute leads me to believe we cannot access a client or patients most basic information without their consent. We know these departments have to have signature in the record in order to do their job in the medical and financial areas.

Also ethically, people are very vulnerable when someone has access to their data in a financial, tax, public health i.e. COVID testing/vaccines, medical/mental situation. They can feel threatened by someone with whom they feel is politically motivated, or asks for the their political affiliation. They may believe the person accessing their basic information, can get to more data, regardless of the limited amount of information that is actually given. That is probably why it is protected and there is no signature on file available.

HB 2499 may be well motivated to get more people registered to vote, but we should be cautious for the legal implications of these sensitive information areas. We need to protect our citizens and prudently watch over the states liability.

Best Regards,
Janice Dysinger
Oregonians for Fair Elections