

SB 585 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 4/25, 5/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows otherwise qualified person who becomes United States citizen less than 251 days before date of primary election and by the precinct committeeperson candidacy filing deadline, to file for and be elected to office of precinct committeeperson, if person registers as member of major political party by filing deadline. Exempts candidate for office of precinct committeeperson from requirement that candidate be member of major political party for at least 180 days before deadline for filing nominating petition or declaration of candidacy if candidate becomes United States citizen within period of 180 days.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

Senate Vote: Ayes, 27; Nays, 2; Excused, 1

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Pathways to become precinct committeeperson (PCP)
- Certain functions only available to elected PCPs
- Party registration requirements for PCP and creating exception to the 180-day requirement
- Measure affecting verification timelines but not changing ballots for PCP

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Current statute ([ORS 248.015 to 248.029](#)) states that a precinct committeeperson (PCP) is a representative of the major political party in the precinct and is elected during a primary election by the members of a major political party, one for each 250 registered voters in the precinct, who are registered at least 251 days before the primary election.

To become a candidate for PCP, a person must be a member of a major political party and must meet party membership and candidacy filing requirements. A person who has been a member of that party for at least 180 days before the primary election may be elected by write-in votes. Additionally, an otherwise qualified person who has been registered with that party for at least 180 days prior to the election, who turns 18 after the filing deadline, but on or before the primary election, is eligible to file for candidacy.

Senate Bill 585 A allows an otherwise qualified person, who registers to vote as a member of a major political party on or before the precinct committeeperson candidacy filing deadline, and who becomes a United States citizen 251 or fewer days before the primary election, but before the candidacy filing deadline, to file a declaration of candidacy to become, and to be elected as, a precinct committeeperson.