

HB 3073 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 2/16, 5/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds residence address of an elector who is candidate for or holder of elected office to information about an elector that is not subject to inspection as a public record and may not be disclosed by Secretary of State (SOS) or county clerk. Prohibits SOS or county clerk from disclosing residence address provided on nominating petition or declaration of candidacy or certificate of nomination. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Verification of home address for candidates
- Elector lists would only include mailing address for candidate or holder of elected office
- Security of elected officials
- Making residential address information available to media through public records requests

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Replaces the measure. Limits public accessibility of candidate's residence address on nominating petition or declaration of candidacy, and candidate's and elected official's residence address on list of electors. Establishes new provision for nominating petition or declaration of candidacy used for public office to: (1) allow each candidate for public office to check a box indicating that candidate does not want residence address to be disclosed; and (2) require candidate to provide alternate mailing address. Requires residence address of candidate who checks the box to not be visible until relevant filing officer determines person is no longer a candidate, candidate elected to public office ceases to hold that office, or candidate indicates that residence address may be visible or disclosed. Requires Secretary of State (SOS) to establish method by rule to allow any public office holder to indicate that office holder does not want residence address to be disclosed on list of electors. Makes residence address of public official not disclosable on list of electors until relevant filing officer determines public office holder no longer holds office or public office holder indicates that residence address may be disclosed. Allows residence address to be subject to inspection as public record only to person who has filed a written public records request. Exempts precinct committee persons. Allows SOS to adopt any rules necessary for implementation and makes operative January 1, 2024. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

BACKGROUND:

Under Oregon law, 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. A registered voter's birth month and day, Social Security number, driver license number, and signature are exempt from disclosure by the Secretary of State (SOS) and county clerk. Individuals whose personal or family safety may be in danger if their residential address is available for public inspection may register to vote with confidentiality protections by applying for the Address Confidentiality Program.

Major political parties nominate candidates for partisan office at the primary election. Candidates may file for office by submitting a declaration of candidacy and paying the filing fee or by submitting a completed nominating petition containing the required number of signatures. A minor political party, assembly of electors, or individual electors may nominate one candidate for each partisan public office to be filled at the general election by preparing and filing a certificate of nomination as provided in ORS 249.712 to 249.850.

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House Bill 3073 prohibits SOS or county clerks from disclosing as a public record or including on the lists of registered voters the residence address of an elector who is candidate for or holder of elected office.