

**SB 585 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY****Carrier:** Sen. Steiner**Senate Committee On Rules****Action Date:** 04/04/23**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)**Vote:** 5-0-0-0**Yeas:** 5 - Hansell, Knopp, Lieber, Manning Jr, Steiner**Fiscal:** No fiscal impact**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Prepared By:** Leslie Porter, LPRO Analyst**Meeting Dates:** 2/21, 4/4**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Allows otherwise qualified person who becomes United States citizen 251 or fewer 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. Allows person who becomes United States citizen within 180 days of nominating petition filing deadline to be candidate for office of precinct committeeperson.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- The alignment of deadlines with those allowing an individual who turns 18 years old 251 or fewer days before the date of a primary election to file for, and be elected to, office of precinct committeeperson
- The importance of civic engagement

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Changes date by which a person who is otherwise qualified to become a precinct committeeperson must become a U.S. citizen, from 180 or fewer days before the primary election to 251 or fewer days. Allows person who becomes U.S. citizen within 180 days of deadline for filing nominating petition to become candidate for office of precinct committeeperson.

**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.