



Oregon Association of County Clerks

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June 18, 2023

Written Testimony before the Senate Rules Committee in Opposition to House Bill 2004

Dear Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Knopp, and Senators Hansell, Manning, and Steiner,

As you know, the Oregon Association of County Clerks (OACC) represents the public officials that conduct elections in Oregon. As a result, OACC has been heavily involved in all recent major election reform in Oregon, including Vote-by-Mail (VBM) and Automatic Voter Registration (AVR).

OACC is not opposed to Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), but RCV is a major change to Oregon election law in multiple ways. It is critical that we get the timing, details, and funding right. With that in mind, please consider that:

- OACC has not been involved with the development of current HB 2004.
- OACC's concerns have not been taken seriously with respect to HB 2004 thus far - the timing and details have instead been driven by the HB 2004 advocates. As a result, HB 2004 is now largely a partisan bill.
- When it comes to the fundamental core of our democracy - elections - OACC believes that we should take the time necessary to ensure that any major change has the active participation of those that run our elections, as well as considering all political perspectives. To do otherwise is to invite more division and distrust. Too many Americans already distrust our election system. Now is not the time to create more division. **Let's take the time to do this right.**
- OACC has a meeting on June 28 to discuss our concerns about HB 2004 with the HB 2004 advocates. That is a good start. Please do not move HB 2004 forward until its many flaws have fully corrected. That cannot happen today, or in a week. Details matter.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 2004.