



## Oregon Association of County Clerks

oacclerks.org

Contact: Rob Bovett  
OACC Legal Counsel  
oaccrob@gmail.com  
541-270-7414

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### **Written Testimony before the Senate Rules Committee Regarding Opportunities and Concerns Related to House Bill 2107**

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

The Oregon Association of County Clerks (OACC) appreciates the opportunity to have worked with the Elections Division of the Secretary of State (SOS) regarding House Bill 2107, which would extend Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). OACC would like to note the following:

- Currently, the SOS sends opt-out/party selection notifications to voters. For consistency, this should remain the responsibility of the SOS with regard to any additional agencies added to AVR.
- There have been challenges maintaining stable data transfers between the SOS and DMV. OACC is hoping this issue will be resolved with the “Oregon Votes” system. The June 01, 2026, implementation date for this new system will hopefully allow enough time for new connections to be tested thoroughly, as our centralized voter registration database replacement project is estimated to be in Phase 1 completion in the Summer of 2023.
- Capturing viable signatures from DMV has been problematic, resulting in many rejected signatures. Signature verification ensures that only the eligible voter who was issued a ballot may vote that ballot, and a high rate of rejected signatures increases the workload for County Clerks.
- Allowing voters to provide a signature after they have registered to vote would create another category that County Clerks would have to process. It would also create another category of challenged ballot if the voter returned a ballot but did not have a registration signature on file. This can be problematic at busy times like the voter registration deadline, or the rush to get challenged ballot letters out after a high turnout election.

OACC has agreed to put no fiscal on the bill at this time. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 2107. As always, OACC stands ready to assist as needed.