

Submitter: Ruth Nelson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: HB2107

I strongly oppose HB 2107.

This bill will automatically register to vote those who have not requested that they be registered to vote. In my experience as a PCP and canvassing during election seasons, I have run into registered non-affiliated voters (NAV) on my list who did not know they were registered, did not know they were on the voter rolls, did not want to be registered to vote, had no interest in voting, had received a ballot by mail, were not going to vote, and had already tossed their ballots. To automatically register to vote all who go through DMV, and now, under certain circumstances, the Oregon Health Authority is a huge invasion of the privacy and the rights of private citizens. Each person who is eligible to vote should be given the liberty to CHOSE whether to register to vote OR NOT.

In light of the recent data breach at the DMV that has put at risk all those who have an Oregon Drivers License or Oregon ID card, and thereby those who are registered to vote, how wise is it to include yet another state agency in registering voters? I suggest, nay, demand that all voter registration be brought to a halt at all agencies that have nothing to do with voting, i.e. DMV. And do not start registering voters at the Oregon Health Authority. If someone wants to CHOOSE NOT to register to vote, DO NOT register him/her automatically.

Just as the DMV should not have its mitts in voter registration, neither should the Oregon Health Authority. The DMV and the Oregon Health Authority have specific purposes and should be kept separate from voter registration. It is not the role of the DMV or the Oregon Health Authority to register voters. How much time is pulled from the purposes of these (bloated) state agencies to focus on voter registration?

That this bill would begin with a "Pilot Program" at a correctional facility is in insult to the intelligence of law-abiding citizens of Oregon. Let ex-offenders register to vote when they are eligible. Give them a CHOICE, just as everyone else should be given a CHOICE of whether to register to vote or NOT.

NO on HB 2107.