

Derrin (Dag) Robinson, C.C.C.
Harney County Clerk

Tammy Attleberger
Chief Deputy Clerk

Elections/ Records / Probate
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February 10, 2023

2023 HJR-4

House Rules Committee

Chair Fahey, Vice-Chairs, Breese-Iverson and Kropf,
Members of the Committee,

I respectfully ask that you vote NO on referring HJR-04 to the Voters. I provide this testimony as the elected County Clerk of frontier Harney County.

Oregon's voters added the registration cut-off to our Constitution for a reason. Proponents of eliminating it from our constitution believe it does not serve its purpose, and is a barrier to democracy. I beg to differ.

Only a few short years ago, during the occupation of the Malheur Refuge in Harney County, I and other officials received valid threats that out-of-state supporters of that insurrection were attempting to register to vote in Harney County in order to affect the outcome of a Recall election of the Harney County Judge (similar to a Chair of the Board of County Commissioners). That threat was thwarted because of the 20-day registration cut-off allowed for in our Constitution.

This kind of activity is a threat that is real and current in small jurisdictions. It has had an effect in those jurisdictions, as Oregon saw during the Rajneesh situation in Wasco County that drove Oregonians to add the safeguard to our Constitution.

As a rural County Elections Official, it is a tool in Oregon's election security tool box that serves a great purpose, and one I am fearful of letting go of.

I believe the concept in HJR-4 is not good elections policy, and ask you to Oppose the Resolution.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Robinson".

Derrin (Dag) Robinson, CCC
Harney County Clerk