



February 14, 2023

To: House Committee on Rules  
From: Oregon Education Association  
RE: Oppose HB 2585

Chair Fahey, Vice Chair Breese-Iverson, and members of the committee,

The Oregon Education Association represents over 41,000 educators and education service professionals across the state, from pre-k to community colleges. Our members are teachers, bus drivers, custodians, teacher assistants, nutrition specialists, community college professionals and more.

On behalf of our members across the state, OEA opposes HB 2585 and any efforts to end automatic voter registration in Oregon.

You might remember a study done back in 2017 by the Center for American Progress, which concluded that automatic voter registration (AVR), or what we know as “Oregon Motor Voter” not only added hundreds of thousands of voters to the rolls since it’s passage, but it boosted turnout and ensures a more geographically and demographically diverse set of voters participating in our elections.<sup>1</sup> Oregon Motor Voter set us on a path to the strongest participation in our elections to date--- this should be the vision of our democracy. However, efforts to end automatic voter registration only serve to thwart a democratic society and the right for Oregonians to participate. That is not the message we want to send.

OEA urges you to oppose HB 2585.

Thank you,  
Michele Ruffin  
Government Relations Consultant  
Oregon Education Association

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.opb.org/news/article/oregon-motor-voter-turnout-diversity-increase-study/>