TO: House Committee on Rules
FR: Ira Cuello-Martinez, PCUN
RE: Support for HB 2107

February 14, 2023

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

My name is Ira Cuello-Martinez and I am the policy and advocacy director at PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker Union. We strongly support HB 2107, the Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) Expansion Act.

Expanding AVR to additional agencies maximizes accuracy and security while reducing costs for taxpayers.

- Expanding AVR systems to Medicaid does not change eligibility for requirements. It simply streamlines the voter registration process for already eligible voters.

- Any registered voter who updates their address information as part of a Medicaid application or upon release from incarceration would have that information shared with election officials to help keep the voter rolls current and accurate.

- AVR significantly increases the accuracy and completeness of voter registration rolls while decreasing workloads and lowering costs for agencies. These benefits have already been seen at Oregon's DMVs, expanding AVR to Medicaid offices maximizes benefits and voter registration for Oregon.

Despite Oregon's success with DMV-based AVR, a significant number of eligible voters in the state remain unregistered to vote or are registered under an old address or name. Expanding AVR to Medicaid offices will close registration gaps, improve the security and accuracy of the voter file, and continue to protect non-citizens.

PCUN urges you to support HB 2107, the Automatic Voter Registration Act.

Ira Cuello-Martinez
Policy and Advocacy Director
PCUN