

**To: Ways & Means Subcommittee on General Government**  
**From: Kate Titus, Common Cause Oregon**  
**Re: HB 5035, Secretary of State Budget Proposal**  
**Date: April 5, 2023**

**Common Cause**

Common Cause is a nonpartisan organization that works for open, honest, accountable government. We are over 1.5 million Americans – including roughly 30,000 Oregonians – working together to realize the unfinished promise of democracy.

**Election Administration Funding**

On behalf of Common Cause, I want to lift up the importance of fully funding election administration. This is among the most fundamental of government functions, not something we can opt out of, even for a single budget cycle. Nor can we afford to short-change this work, especially now when our election administrators and systems are under exceptional stress, facing disinformation campaigns, violent threats, serious cyber security issues, and aging systems in need of update. The Secretary's budget requests for elections appear modest, reasonable, and essential.

Thank you for taking on the difficult work of budget prioritization. As you waded through many tough choices, we hope you'll continue to prioritize full funding for Oregon's election administration.