

Data sharing with Secretary of State

Senate Bill 1577 proposes the Department of Revenue provide data to the Secretary of State, including electronic records of an individual's legal name, age, residence, citizenship information, and electronic signature. The Secretary of State would establish a schedule to receive the records from the department and provide the information to county clerks.

Disclosure laws and personal information

The department's existing disclosure statute (ORS 314.835), and IRS requirements, prevent the department from sharing taxpayer information unless there is a statutory exemption to do so.

As introduced, the department has several administrative impacts and observations about SB 1577:

- Lack of information – The department does not request, or retain, citizenship information or electronic signatures from taxpayers and cannot comply with this request.
- Obsolete addresses - Most taxpayer addresses are updated on a yearly based on annual tax filings. Some taxpayers provide a P.O. Box or a secondary address when filing their tax returns. These addresses may be inadequate to determine current residence for voting purposes.
- Sharing with counties – The bill proposes that taxpayer information from the department, provided to the Secretary of State, may be shared to the county clerks. This subsequent disclosure to a third party would require the department to partner with county election officials, signing annual secrecy certificates to keep taxpayer information confidential.
- Fiscal impact – The department would require significant resources for IT programming, to extract voluminous data and securely transfer it to the Secretary of State.

-3 amendment

The department looks forward to further work group conversations about voter registrations.

Previous data sharing legislation

As amended, [House Bill 2499](#) (2021) proposed to allow the Secretary of State to provide information from the centralized voter registration system to the department for validation. If the department identified a more current address for a taxpayer, the department would have reported the individual's address to the Secretary of State, who would then share the address with the affected county clerk.

HB 2499 proposed a different approach to sharing taxpayer data - the department would have validated data (name and address) from other sources, not disclose taxpayer data to external partners. The department remains vigilant in protecting taxpayer data, and ensuring taxpayers can voluntarily comply with the tax system knowing their data is secure.

Agency Contact

Marjorie Taylor, Legislative Director, marjorie.taylor@dor.oregon.gov, phone: (503) 476-7644
Ben Gille, Personal Tax and Compliance – Program and System Section Manager,
benjamin.p-jr.gille@dor.oregon.gov, phone: (503) 899-0934