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On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal
and World Affairs

Measure: SB1577

Without a critical revision, SB1577 will indiscriminately inflate voter rolls and provides an open invitation to voter fraud:

Our current process to register to vote in Oregon is already easy. It is a web address for those without a DMV record. It is called, "MyVote". College students that are not licensed drivers can easily visit a website and affirmatively opt-in to become a registered voter in Oregon.

The process (as described in the bill) removes the "affirmative opt-in" process that we currently have at the OR DMV, and adds voters to our rolls if they do not intentionally opt-out within 21 days of receiving a mailed notification from the SOS. College students are, by definition, transient. This leaves their mail sitting at a dorm, or house, or PO Box while they attend classes and live their lives (or go back home where they are already registered). Additionally, young adults are not the the greatest at opening mail from the USPS because they rarely use USPS (unless they are expecting a package from family!) I mean no disrespect to young adults, but as a parent of a few, they don't open their mail because most of it is junk mail. For these reasons, this 21-day automatic registration is a bad idea.

What this bill does not seem to address is confirming in what state these "voters" are actually registered, but leaves it on the voter to inform the SOS. This has the potential to create a scenario of a college student voting in Oregon, and then voting in their own state, does it not?

The lack of controls and removing the "affirmative opt-in" process provides a ripe environment for inflated voter rolls and does not improve election integrity.

While I oppose this bill as introduced, I urge the committee to recommend revisions to this bill that reverses the 21-day "intentional opt out" and replace it with an "affirmative opt-in"; where the potential voter must confirm their registration intent. This would still give the Sponsors what they want (more potential voters), while maintaining the integrity of the voter rolls and eliminate the risk of a voter in Oregon returning to their domicile state to vote again.

Thank you for your consideration.