LC 4595 2025 Regular Session 2/21/25 (DJ/wjc/ps)

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Digest: The Act increases the percentage of voters in the state required for a party to be a major party. (Flesch Readability Score: 62.8).

Increases the party registration requirement to be a major political party in this state from five percent to 10 percent.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to party membership registration requirements; amending ORS
3 248.006; and declaring an emergency.

4 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 248.006 is amended to read:

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6 248.006. (1) An affiliation of electors becomes a major political party in this state and is qualified to make nominations at a primary election when 7 a number of electors equal to at least [five] 10 percent of the number of 8 electors registered in this state are registered as members of the party not 9 later than the 275th day before the date of a primary election. An affiliation 10 11 of electors satisfying the requirements of this subsection shall be subject to the provisions of ORS 248.007 on the date the Secretary of State determines 12the registration requirements are satisfied. 13

(2) The number of electors described in subsection (1) of this section shall
be calculated based on the number of electors registered in this state and
eligible to vote, as reported on the official abstracts of the election, at the
general election immediately preceding the deadline specified in subsection
(1) of this section.

19 (3) After an affiliation of electors becomes a major political party under

subsection (1) of this section, in order to maintain status as a major political party subject to ORS 248.007, the party must satisfy the registration requirement of subsection (1) of this section not later than the 275th day before each primary election.

5 (4) An affiliation of electors ceases to be a major political party if the 6 registration requirements of subsection (1) of this section are not satisfied 7 by the 275th day before each primary election. The affiliation of electors 8 ceases to be a major political party on the date the Secretary of State de-9 termines that the registration requirement is not satisfied.

(5) When an affiliation of electors has not satisfied the registration re-10 quirement of subsection (1) of this section for the first time, at the request 11 12of a representative of the affiliation of electors, the Secretary of State shall determine not less than once each month whether at least [five] 10 percent 13 of the number of eligible electors registered in this state are registered as 14 members of the party. After an affiliation of electors has qualified as a major 15political party, the Secretary of State shall determine on the 271st day before 16 each primary election whether the major political party has satisfied the 17registration requirements described in subsection (3) of this section. 18

19 <u>SECTION 2.</u> This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate pres-20 ervation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is de-21 clared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect July 1, 2025.

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