

HB 3908 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Leslie Porter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 6/16, 6/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure increases the party registration requirement to be a major political party in Oregon from five percent to 10 percent. It declares an emergency and takes effect on July 1, 2025.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the Secretary of State Political Party Manual (2024), a political party is a group of people with a shared philosophy and common goals organized to influence public policy. In Oregon, political parties are formed by petition. Once formed, political parties are classified as either major or minor based on the number of voters who are registered as members of the party. Each party can nominate candidates for any federal, state, or county partisan office if the party is established within the candidate's district and has maintained ballot access.

A group of affiliated voters in Oregon becomes a major political party and must nominate its candidates at the primary election when at least five percent of the voters eligible to vote at the last general election are registered as members of the party.