

House Bill 2876

Sponsored by Representative EVANS (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act would make all counties have a nonpartisan board of commissioners unless voters in the county choose not to do so. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.4).

Provides that the governing body of a county shall be a nonpartisan board of five commissioners elected by the people of the county unless county voters choose not to do so. Requires a county to provide by ordinance or resolution for the structure of the board, the board districts, if any, the election procedures and compensation for the commissioners if the county voters have not chosen to exempt the county from the provisions.

Becomes operative on January 1, 2027.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to county governing bodies.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) Except as otherwise provided by the charter of the county or subsection**
5 **(3) of this section, the governing body of a county shall be a nonpartisan board consisting**
6 **of five commissioners elected by the people of the county.**

7 **(2) The county shall provide by ordinance or resolution for the structure of the board,**
8 **the board districts, if any, the election procedures and compensation for the commissioners.**

9 **(3) A county is exempt from the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) of this section**
10 **if a county measure that exempts the county from subsections (1) and (2) of this section is**
11 **approved by the voters of the county. The county measure may be proposed by initiative**
12 **petition, or referred to the people by the governing body of the county, at an election held**
13 **on a date specified in ORS 203.085 (1).**

14 **SECTION 2. (1) Section 1 of this 2025 Act becomes operative on January 1, 2027.**

15 **(2) Notwithstanding the operative date set forth in subsection (1) of this section, all**
16 **county officers and employees may take any action before the operative date set forth in**
17 **subsection (1) of this section that is necessary for nonpartisan county boards of commis-**
18 **sioners to exercise, on and after the operative date set forth in subsection (1) of this section,**
19 **all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on nonpartisan county boards of commis-**
20 **sioners by section 1 of this 2025 Act.**

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NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.