

To: The [Senate Committee On Judiciary](#)

From: Elaine Woods

Testimony in Favor of SB 18

Chair Sen. Prozanski, Vice Chair Sen. Kim Thatcher, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,
I am writing in favor of Senate Bill 18 for the following reasons:

The act of voting is a cherished liberty in America, but there are problems with the way that Oregon currently votes. The failure to follow federal law by not requiring proof of identity and citizenship compromises our vote.

Current issues with our election system are:

- *Self attestation is used, trusting that each applicant who registers to vote in Oregon will tell the truth.
- * Over 62,000 people were registered to vote through the DMV without proof of citizenship, so they were not qualified to vote.
- *Countless people, without proof of citizenship, register to vote online, in person, or through the Oregon Health Authority.
- *Judicial Watch has filed suit against Oregon for extremely dirty voter rolls, which violates federal law.

All of the above highlight the need for attention to our election system.

Current law does carry criminal and civil punishments, and I strongly support the proposed increases:

Civil penalties for violations of the laws mentioned are classed as felonies (Class B or Class C) will be increased from \$1,000 to:

\$10,000 For the first time intentional violation of the six listed Oregon statutes

\$25,000 for the second or subsequent violation of ORS 260.569

\$50,000 for the second or subsequent violation of the six listed statutes

\$125,000 second or subsequent violation of the six listed statutes or the four listed actions described in the four listed statutes

If the violations are committed by a public official while acting in an official capacity a second or subsequent time, the public official may be charged twice the amount of the allowed civil penalty.

It is time to take seriously the importance of our elections and hold people accountable for violating our laws and our freedom for verifiable, transparent elections.