

411 S.W. 2nd Avenue Suite 200 Portland, OR 97204 503-548-2797 info@progparty.org

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Position on Bills at 2025 Session of Oregon Legislature:

SB 65: Support

The Oregon Progressive Party supports SB 65, which would create a civil cause of action for the deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities secured by the Oregon Constitution or Oregon laws by another person who is acting under color of state or local laws, ordinances or rules. The measure provides economic and noneconomic damages, injunctive or other equitable relief, and attorney fees and costs for a prevailing plaintiff. It also permits a court to award a prevailing defendant's attorney fees and costs if the court determines the plaintiff's claim was frivolous, unreasonable or without foundation.

As the Staff Measure Summary states:

No specific right of action currently exists to award damages for the deprivation of rights guaranteed by the Oregon Constitution.

SB 65 would replicate, on the state level, the structure and content of civil rights law enforcement on the federal level under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 et seq.

Oregon Progressive Party

Daniel Meek authorized legal representative dan@meek.net 503-293-9021