

OREGON ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY CLERKS

www.oacclerks.org



Contact: Tess Milio
OACC Lobbyist
tess@miliocapitolconsulting.com
626-484-8387

March 3, 2025

Re: Testimony on House Bill 3012

Dear Chair Bowman, Vice-Chair Drazan, Vice-Chair Pham, and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Association of County Clerks (OACC) appreciates the opportunity to weigh in on HB 3012. OACC is neutral on the bill at this time.

OACC appreciates that the stakeholders of this legislation reached out to us in the interim to begin discussions on this legislation and how to make improvements. We are grateful that we have been asked for input on HB 3012 and that the proponents have taken that feedback and made some adjustments as a result. For instance, we appreciate the -1 amendment that would push out the implementation deadline two years to ensure time for any software changes that may need to be made at the Secretary of State's office. That extra time will be useful to ensure this bill can be implemented properly statewide, with time to return to the legislature if changes end up being needed.

We have also been working with proponents on language to make HB 3012 specific to school district board elections, and to not apply to statewide ballot measures. Without this fix 16 & 17 year-old students would be voting on tax measures and this would apply to all elections not just Special District Elections.

Please find some additional information below that Clerks would like to share as you consider this legislation:

- The majority of School District Elections costs are allocated to the School Districts. Clerks bill the school districts and are reimbursed for the costs to administer their election. The additional costs to set up, print and administer the elections for the 16 & 17 year-olds will fall to the school districts to cover.
- Keeping minors' information confidential is a primary concern for election officials. We believe this bill will require some software modifications at the state level, which will likely have a fiscal associated.
- Minors will vote in the school district they reside in. If a minor has been granted permission to attend a school district, in which they do not reside, they will not vote in that district.

- This will add additional ballot styles to a complex election, each of the 197 districts will require its own ballot style when there is an election for any of their school boards.
- We do anticipate that HB 3012, like most election changes, may cause some voter confusion, especially since the 16 & 17 year-olds will be restricted in the races they will be able to participate in.

OACC asks the legislature to take a thoughtful and careful approach to any legislation that changes elections significantly. Again, we appreciate the effort made by advocates to engage the clerks early on this bill and hope to continue to be part of the dialogue on this bill as it moves forward. As always, please feel free to reach out to the County Clerks if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tess Milio". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tess" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Milio".

Tess Milio
OACC Lobbyist