

Submitter:

Cody James

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1054

I am writing as a taxpayer and voter from Lakeview to voice my enthusiastic support for Senate Bill 1054, which requires county clerks to provide a live video feed of ballot counting and drop sites, accessible online, with recordings kept for two years. This bill is a fantastic step toward transparency and trust in our elections, and it's something rural folks like me in Lake County can rally behind. I urge you to vote YES and make this a win for all Oregonians.

As someone who mails my ballot from Lakeview, I want to know the process is aboveboard—especially in a state where every vote is counted by mail or drop box. SB 1054 gives me a front-row seat to watch the action live, whether it's ballots being tallied or dropped off at our local site. I don't have to drive to the county clerk's office or wonder what's happening behind closed doors—I can see it myself, anytime, online. That's peace of mind, and it's long overdue.

The two-year recording rule is a game-changer too. If there's ever a question about an election—say, a close race or a glitch—I can go back and check the footage myself. Living in a rural area like Lakeview, where we're often left out of the loop, this levels the playing field. It's not just for city folks with fancy internet; it's for us too, ensuring our votes are handled right and giving us proof if anyone doubts it.

I also appreciate the safeguards. The Secretary of State's rules will keep cameras from showing how I vote or messing with security—smart limits that make this practical, not just a feel-good idea. Compared to wasteful spending like HB 3939, this is a low-cost way to boost confidence in our system without breaking the bank.

I strongly back Senate Bill 1054 and ask you to vote YES. It's a simple, powerful fix that lets me trust my vote counts, keeps elections honest, and shows rural voters like me that our voices matter. Let's lead the way with transparency—pass this bill!