

Submitter:

Allison Valerio

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB952

I stand in opposition to this bill. The people should retain the power to choose their representatives.

Oregon already the dubious reputation of circumventing the rights of its citizens with the current practice of making judicial appointments when a judge resigns during its term. It is well documented that incumbents have a distinct advantage in the election. We now have a complete monopoly of liberal judges in Oregon due to this practice.

The citizens have already lost a statewide, elected office when the Superintendent of Schools, was changed to an appointed position by former Gov. Kitzhaber. We did not vote to give up our right to elect the State Superintendent of Schools, it just was taken away. Now, it is not even an appointed position, but the current Governor, Tina Kotek, has appointed herself in that position. We should be alarmed at the power grab that is happening in Oregon by elected & non-elected officials.

Congressional representations must be made by the citizens in a fair and open vote. When a State has a super majority and governor of the same party, there is no voice for the minority when the office opens due to retirement or other reasons. We risk circumventing the will of the voters and it is a dangerous path to tread.

If a candidate dies or steps down during their current term, the seat should remain open until a special election is held.

Please vote NO on SB-952.