



*The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.*

June 4, 2025

To: **Chair** Representative Bowman, Vice-Chair Drazan, and [Members of the House](#)  
[Committee on Rules](#)

Re: [SB 578](#) – Filing deadlines for county voters' pamphlets – **SUPPORT**

Since 1987, the League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) has had a public position that it “believes elections should be conducted in a manner that encourages voter participation”, and that it supports the publication and distribution of a voters’ pamphlet before each election, as government has an “obligation to provide the voters with accurate information so that voters can make reasoned choices.”<sup>1</sup>

Twelve rural Oregon counties have created deadlines for submission of candidate materials for the county voters’ pamphlets that are before the deadlines published in the Oregon Secretary of State’s “[County, City, and District Candidate Manual](#)” (e.g., see p. 5).<sup>2</sup> These differing deadlines have caused several candidates to miss the earlier deadline for timely submission of materials for the county voters’ pamphlet.

This bill would resolve the problem by requiring the Secretary of State to set the deadline by which the portrait and statement of a candidate for county, city, or special district offices can be submitted for inclusion in the county voters’ pamphlet for primary and general elections.

We urge your support for SB 578.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Handwritten signature of Lisa Bentson in blue ink.

Lisa Bentson  
President LWVOR

Handwritten signature of Norman Turrill in blue ink.

Norman Turrill  
LWVOR Action Cmte  
Governance Coordinator

Handwritten signature of Chris Cobey in blue ink.

Chris Cobey  
LWVOR Action Cmte  
Governance Advocate

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<sup>1</sup> [LWVOR Position Index / LWVOR Policy and Position Statements, “Election Laws.”](#)

<sup>2</sup> See testimony of witness at [March 31 Senate Rules Cmte public hrg](#) beginning at 5:30 (Kim Schmith).