



State Senator Kayse Jama

Senate District 24 (D-East Portland, Damascus, Boring)

February 27th, 2026

Good Afternoon Chair Bowman, Vice-Chair Elmer, and members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Kayse Jama and I represent Senate District 24, covering East Portland, Damascus, and Boring.

I am pleased to bring forward Senate Bill 1509-A, alongside my co-champion and Vice-Chair, Senator Starr.

Faithless electors who subvert the will of voters present a serious risk to our democratic process, one that could arise as soon as 2028. That is why it is critical that we address this issue now.

I will defer to the advocates present today to address the technical details of the bill, but at a high level, SB 1509-A is a good governance measure. It builds on existing Oregon law, which already requires electors to sign a pledge to uphold the will of Oregon voters.

The bill had only one amendment, consisting of technical fixes to ensure the policy works as intended, and it passed unanimously on the Senate floor.

This legislation, along with the adopted amendment, has been endorsed by Secretary of State Read. We worked closely with the Secretary's elections division staff to ensure the language aligns with existing statute and allows their work to continue without disruption.

SB 1509-A is also supported by a broad coalition of organizations, including Common Cause Oregon, the Oregon League of Women Voters, Mormon Women for Ethical Government, Protect Democracy, and others.

I respectfully ask for your aye vote.

Sincerely,

State Senator Kayse Jama
Senate District 24