

CHAPTER 679

AN ACT

HB 2199

Relating to ballot security; amending ORS 254.074, 254.470 and 254.483; and declaring an emergency.
Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 254.074 is amended to read:

254.074. (1)(a) Each county clerk shall file a county elections security plan with the Secretary of State not later than:

[(a)] (A) January 31 of each calendar year; and

[(b)] (B) One business day after any revision is made to the county elections security plan.

[(2)] (b) A county elections security plan shall include, but is not limited to:

[(a)] (A) A written security agreement entered into with any vendor handling ballots;

[(b)] (B) Security procedures for transporting ballots;

[(c)] (C) Security procedures at official places of deposit for ballots;

[(d)] (D) Security procedures for processing ballots;

[(e)] (E) Security procedures governing election observers;

[(f)] (F) Security procedures for ballots located in county elections work areas, buildings and storage areas;

[(g)] (G) Security procedures for vote tally systems, including computer access to vote tally systems;

(H) The number and location of all video surveillance cameras within the elections office;

[(h)] (I) Security procedures for scanning ballots into a vote tally system before the date of the election, if applicable; and

[(i)] (J) Post-election ballot security.

[(3)] (2) A security plan developed and filed under **subsection (1) of this section** is confidential and not subject to disclosure under ORS 192.410 to 192.505.

(3) For each election, at the time the county clerk certifies the results of an election, the clerk shall submit to the Secretary of State a record of:

(a) The number of ballot envelopes received.

(b) The number of ballot envelopes accepted.

(c) The number of ballot envelopes not accepted.

(d) The number of ballot envelopes rejected.

(e) The number of tallied ballots.

(4) A county clerk may not scan ballots as described in ORS 254.478 unless the Secretary of State reviews and approves a security plan [under] **described in subsection (1) of this section.**

SECTION 2. ORS 254.483 is amended to read:

254.483. [Immediately after 8 p.m. on the day of an election:]

[(1) The county clerk shall destroy all unused absentee and regular ballots in the county clerk's possession.]

[(2) Each county shall provide for the security of, and shall account for, unused ballots.]

(1) Each county clerk is responsible for the safekeeping, disposition and security of all ballots.

(2) As soon as practicable after the final day permitted for a contest of the election or for filing a demand for a recount, the county clerk shall destroy all unused ballots.

SECTION 3. ORS 254.470 is amended to read:

254.470. (1) The Secretary of State by rule shall establish requirements and criteria for the designation of places of deposit for the ballots cast in an election. The rules shall also specify the dates and times the places of deposit must be open and the security requirements for the places of deposit. At a minimum, the places designated under this section shall be open on the date of the election for a period of eight or more hours, but must be open until at least 8 p.m. At each place of deposit designated under this section, the county clerk shall prominently display a sign stating that the location is an official ballot drop site.

(2)(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection, the county clerk shall mail by nonforwardable mail an official ballot with a return identification envelope and a secrecy envelope not sooner than the 18th day before the date of an election and not later than the 14th day before the date of the election, to each active elector of the electoral district as of the 21st day before the date of the election.

(b) If the county clerk determines that an active elector of the electoral district as of the 21st day before the date of the election does not receive daily mail service from the United States Postal Service, the county clerk shall mail by nonforwardable mail an official ballot with a return identification envelope and a secrecy envelope to the elector not sooner than the 20th day before the date of an election and not later than the 18th day before the date of the election.

(c) In the case of ballots to be mailed to addresses outside this state to electors who are not long-term absent electors, the county clerk may mail the ballots not sooner than the 29th day before the date of the election.

(3) For an election held on the date of a primary election:

(a) The county clerk shall mail the official ballot of a major political party to each elector who is registered as being affiliated with the major political party as of the 21st day before the date of the election.

(b) The county clerk shall mail the official ballot of a major political party to an elector not affiliated with any political party if the elector has applied for the ballot as provided in this subsection and that party has provided under ORS 254.365 for a primary

election that admits electors not affiliated with any political party.

(c) An elector not affiliated with any political party who wishes to vote in the primary election of a major political party shall apply to the county clerk in writing. The application shall indicate which major political party ballot the elector wishes to receive. Except for electors described in subsection (4) of this section, and subject to ORS 247.203, the application must be received by the county clerk not later than 5 p.m. of the 21st day before the date of the election.

(d) If the primary election ballot includes city, county or nonpartisan offices or measures, the county clerk shall mail to each elector who is not eligible to vote for party candidates a ballot limited to those offices and measures for which the elector is eligible to vote.

(4) For each elector who updates a voter registration after the deadline in ORS 247.025, the county clerk shall make the official ballot, the return identification envelope and the secrecy envelope available either by mail or at the county clerk's office or at another place designated by the county clerk. An elector to whom this subsection applies must request a ballot from the county clerk.

(5) The ballot shall contain the following warning:

Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting is subject to a fine.

(6)(a) Upon receipt of any ballot described in this section, the elector shall mark the ballot, sign the return identification envelope supplied with the ballot and comply with the instructions provided with the ballot.

(b) The elector may return the marked ballot to the county clerk by United States mail or by depositing the ballot at the office of the county clerk, at any place of deposit designated by the county clerk or at any location described in ORS 254.472 or 254.474.

(c) The ballot must be returned in the return identification envelope. If the elector returns the ballot by mail, the elector must provide the postage.

(d) Subject to paragraph (e) of this subsection, if a person returns a ballot for an elector, the person shall deposit the ballot in a manner

described in paragraph (b) of this subsection not later than two days after receiving the ballot.

(e) A ballot must be received at the office of the county clerk, at the designated place of deposit or at any location described in ORS 254.472 or 254.474 not later than the end of the period determined under subsection (1) of this section on the date of the election.

(7) An elector may obtain a replacement ballot if the ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost or not received by the elector. Replacement ballots shall be issued and processed as described in this section and ORS 254.480. The county clerk shall keep a record of each replacement ballot provided under this subsection. Notwithstanding any deadline for mailing ballots in subsection (2) of this section, a replacement ballot may be mailed, made available in the office of the county clerk or made available at one central location in the electoral district in which the election is conducted. The county clerk shall designate the central location. A replacement ballot need not be mailed after the fifth day before the date of the election.

(8) A ballot shall be counted only if:

(a) It is returned in the return identification envelope;

(b) The envelope is signed by the elector to whom the ballot is issued; and

(c) The signature is verified as provided in subsection (9) of this section.

(9) The county clerk shall verify the signature of each elector on the return identification envelope with the signature on the elector's registration card, according to the procedure provided by rules adopted by the Secretary of State. If the county clerk determines that an elector to whom a replacement ballot has been issued has voted more than once, the county clerk shall count only one ballot cast by that elector.

(10) At 8 p.m. on election day, electors who are at the county clerk's office, a place of deposit designated under subsection (1) of this section or any location described in ORS 254.472 or 254.474 and who are in line waiting to vote or deposit a voted ballot shall be considered to have begun the act of voting.

SECTION 4. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect on its passage.

Approved by the Governor July 29, 2013

Filed in the office of Secretary of State July 30, 2013

Effective date July 29, 2013
