

CHAPTER 114

AN ACT

SB 1586

Relating to voting; and declaring an emergency.
Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, “school of higher education” means:

(a) A public university listed in ORS 352.002.

(b) A community college, as defined in ORS 341.005.

(2)(a) The Secretary of State shall ensure that within four miles of the main campus of each school of higher education there is at least one location designated as an official ballot drop site under ORS 254.470.

(b) The requirement set forth in paragraph (a) of this subsection applies only to elections held within the electoral district in which the main campus of a school of higher education is located.

(3) Each school of higher education shall:

(a) Display a direct link to the Secretary of State’s online voter registration tool on the school’s Internet website or on any appropriate student-focused digital communication network managed by the school.

(b) Upon the request of the school’s official student government or its equivalent, give the student government or its equivalent an opportunity to provide nonpartisan voter registration services:

(A) As part of student orientation programs held by the school’s administration;

(B) As part of campus welcome events that occur before classes begin each academic term; and

(C) As part of residence life program activities.

(c) Upon the request of the school’s official student government or its equivalent, provide the student government or its equivalent with an official class schedule and a list of professional contact information for school faculty, which may be used for the purpose of seeking faculty approval for the student government or

its equivalent to provide nonpartisan voter registration classroom presentations.

(d) Provide individual students and student groups the opportunity to provide nonpartisan voter registration services throughout the academic term in any nonreserved public space on the school’s property, provided that the nonpartisan voter registration services conform to the rules of conduct and rules for reserving space at the school. This paragraph applies only to students enrolled at the school and does not alter in any way the rights of a person who is not enrolled as a student at the school.

(e) If the school owns and operates any student housing, at least three months prior to each primary or general election:

(A) Obtain from the local county elections office what address information students living in on-campus housing must provide in order to receive election ballots in the event a student chooses to vote using the student’s campus address; and

(B) Make the information obtained under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph available to the school’s official student government or its equivalent.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2016 Act first applies to the 2017-2018 academic year.

SECTION 3. (1) Section 1 of this 2016 Act becomes operative on July 1, 2017.

(2) A school of higher education, as defined in section 1 of this 2016 Act, may take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary for the school to exercise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the school by section 1 of this 2016 Act.

SECTION 4. This 2016 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2016 Act takes effect on its passage.

Approved by the Governor April 4, 2016

Filed in the office of Secretary of State April 4, 2016

Effective date April 4, 2016