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# ELECTIONS AND ETHICS

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## 2018 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION: MEASURE SUMMARIES

The *2018 Summary of Legislation – Elections and Ethics* summarizes selected measures related to this policy area that were considered by the 79th Oregon Legislative Assembly, including bills, memorials, and resolutions. This publication will become part of a more comprehensive *2018 Summary of Legislation* that includes all topic area summaries and committee membership lists.

This publication begins with a table highlighting measures that establish task forces or create reporting requirements. The summaries of selected measures follow in three groups—bills, memorials, and resolutions—each listed in numerical order.

Each summary provides information on the chief sponsors, committees assigned, background and current law, description of the measure, and date when the measure, if enacted, becomes effective. Each summary also includes a link to the measure on the [Oregon Legislative Information System \(OLIS\)](#), which provides a more comprehensive staff measure summary, all versions of the measure, amendments, public testimony, a complete measure history, and final vote tallies.

The *2018 Summary of Legislation* focuses on policy measures. Information on revenue measures is available on the [Legislative Revenue Office website](#). Information on the state budget and selected legislation that impacts state agencies is available on the [Legislative Fiscal Office website](#).

The Legislative Policy and Research Office will update this publication with each bill's effective date and assigned chapter in Oregon Laws 2018 when that information becomes available.

Contact information:

Legislative Policy and Research Office

900 Court Street NE, Room 453

Salem, OR 97301

503-986-1813

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/lpro>



## **ELECTIONS AND ETHICS TASK FORCES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

There were no task forces or reporting requirements involving elections and ethics enacted through legislation during the 2018 session.

## Election Law

**Chief Sponsors:** Senate Rules and Executive Appointments

**Committees:** Senate Rules, House Rules

**Background and Current Law:** Senate Bill 1510 addresses several election-related issues, including voter records, initiative petitions, and reporting requirements.

**Bill Summary:** Senate Bill 1510 modifies election law in several respects. Among its provisions, the bill does the following:

- prohibits the disclosure of certain voter-related information and includes other information in publicly available lists maintained by County Clerks and the Secretary of State;
- requires that the final certified ballot title be included on initiative petitions and caps the number of signatures that may be included on a prospective initiative petition to initiate a state measure at 2,000;
- directs elections officers to reprint ballots if the officer determines at least 61 days before an election that a candidate has died, withdrawn, or is not qualified for office;
- eliminates the obligation of district elections officials to notify the county clerk whether a candidate elected to district office is qualified to hold that office;
- clarifies which of two deadlines applies to filing statements of contributions and expenditures in certain circumstances;
- formalizes the process for non-affiliated voters to apply to vote in a major political party primary;
- authorizes a candidate or the treasurer of a principal campaign committee, petition committee, or political committee, to amend a statement of organization within five business days of filing to include financial account information; and
- modifies time periods relating to write-in candidates and district election determinations.

**Oregon Laws 2018:** Chapter 70

### [House Bill 4076](#)

Not Enacted

#### Small Donor Elections

**Chief Sponsors:** Rep. Rayfield; Sen Roblan; Rep. Keny-Guyer

**Committees:** House Rules

**Background and Current Law:** Some states regulate campaign spending in elections by providing public funds to candidates who agree to certain limitations. Generally, if a candidate receives public financing for a campaign, the candidate agrees to not raise private funds and may only spend up to a set amount. Currently, 13 states provide some form of public financing for campaigns. The two primary types of public financing programs are “clean elections” programs that offer full funding for campaigns, and programs that provide matching funds for each qualifying contribution received by participants.

**Bill Summary:** House Bill 4076 would have established the Small Donor Elections program (Program) to enable candidates for state office to receive a 6-to-1 match on small dollar donations.

A candidate could have participated in the Program after: filing a statement of intent to participate with the Secretary of State at a specified time; collecting at least the minimum amount and number of in-state qualifying contributions; signing an affidavit; and agreeing to comply with Program requirements. The measure also would have established limits on how a candidate could use Program funds and on accepting contributions that exceed qualified contribution or nonmatching contribution amounts.

### [House Bill 4077](#)

Not Enacted

#### Business Information in Statement of Economic Interest

**Chief Sponsors:** Reps. Rayfield, Keny-Guyer, G. Smith

**Committees:** House Rules

**Background and Current Law:** Oregon law requires certain public officials to file an annual statement of economic interest with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission. The information public officials are required to report includes: sources of income; real property; all expenses exceeding \$50 received while participating in specified activities; and each source of income exceeding \$1,000 if the source of income is derived from an individual or business that has or could have legislative or administrative interests.

**Bill Summary:** House Bill 4077 would have required a public official to include in the statement of economic interest specified information about sources of income for businesses in which the public official or candidate, or a member of their household, is an officer or holds a directorship, if the source of income has a legislative or administrative interest and if 10 percent or more of the total gross annual income of the business comes from that source.