

voters' pamphlet

A BILL

TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE LEGAL ELECTORS OF THE STATE
OF OREGON FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR
REJECTION AT THE

REGULAR GENERAL ELECTION

TO BE HELD ON THE SIXTH DAY OF JUNE, 1904

TO PROPOSE A

DIRECT PRIMARY NOMINATING ELECTIONS LAW

By Initiative Petition filed in the office of the Secretary of State February 5, 1904, in accordance with the provisions of an Act "making effective the Initiative and Referendum Provisions of Section 1 of Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Oregon," approved February 24, 1903.

Printed in pursuance of Section 8 of the foregoing Act.
SECRETARY OF STATE.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE NUMBER AND FORM IN WHICH
THE QUESTION WILL BE PRINTED ON THE
OFFICIAL BALLOT:

PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

FOR DIRECT PRIMARY NOMINATING ELECTIONS LAW. Vote Yes or No

302. Yes.

303. No.

Cover of First State Voters' Pamphlet—Celebrating a Century of Voter Education in Oregon

Vote-by-Mail Special Election, September 16, 2003



Bill Bradbury
Bill Bradbury
Oregon Secretary of State

This Voters' Pamphlet is provided for assistance in casting your vote-by-mail ballot.

BILL BRADBURY

SECRETARY OF STATE

PADDY J. McGUIRE

DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE



STATE OF OREGON
SECRETARY OF STATE

136 STATE CAPITOL
SALEM, OREGON 97310-0722
(503) 986-1523

Dear Oregonian,

For one hundred years, Oregon has been a national leader in creating an election system that encourages voter participation. In 1902, Oregonians approved a ballot measure allowing the people to pass legislation by initiative and referendum; in 1903, the legislature directed the Secretary of State to compile a voters' pamphlet; and in 1904, Oregonians by initiative enacted the direct primary and the first voters' pamphlet was published.

Continuing the tradition, our unique vote by mail system has increased voter turnout since enacted in 1998, and we are currently implementing improvements under the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 in order to make voting systems more reliable and voting information more accessible.

These old and new reforms have allowed greater public participation in legislation and greater public education about the candidates and proposals that will govern us all. Oregon has one of the most active electorates in the nation, and our voters' pamphlet is one of the most informative in the nation - providing you with the essential information necessary to make smart decisions about our future.

Oregon's rich history of election reform has created an election system built by and for you, sensitive to your concerns and ideas. As a result, it is up to you to take advantage of this election system, to make the choices that will steer our state by voting for what you believe in.

As Harry Truman once said, "It is not the hand that writes the law that holds the destiny of America, it is the hand that casts the ballot."

If you are re-registering or registering to vote for the first time, please use the new voter registration card, available online at www.oregonvotes.org, or request a registration card by mailing in the form on page 9 of this pamphlet.

For those of you who are already registered to vote, I urge you to send in your ballot so that it is received by September 16. Remember, the decisions you make with your ballot will affect all of our lives and the future of our state.

Best wishes,

Bill Bradbury
Oregon Secretary of State

On the cover: One hundred years ago, the Oregon Legislature directed the Secretary of State to produce an informational packet for each measure presented to Oregon voters. Following that, the first Voters' Pamphlet in Oregon was for the June 1904 Regular General Election to establish direct nominating elections for United States Senate candidates. Image of original cover provided by University of Oregon Libraries.

Information

GENERAL

Your official 2003 September Special Election Voters' Pamphlet provides you with information about Measure 29, a statewide measure referred by the legislature. Additionally, you can find information about vote-by-mail and voter registration, as well as contact information for county elections officials across the state.

For Measure 29, you will find the ballot title, estimate of financial impact, the complete text of the proposed measure, an impartial statement explaining the measure and all arguments filed by proponents and opponents of the measure. The ballot title, estimate of financial impact and explanatory statement for the referral were written by the legislature.

Citizens or organizations may file arguments in favor of, or in opposition to, measures by purchasing space for \$500 or by submitting a petition signed by 1,000 voters. Arguments in favor of a measure appear first, followed by arguments in opposition to the measure, and are printed in the order in which they are filed with the Secretary of State's office.

Because Measure 29 was referred to Oregon voters by the Legislature, you will find a "Legislative Argument in Support" for the measure. Oregon law allows the Legislature to submit, at no cost, an argument in support of each measure it refers to the people.

The Voters' Pamphlet has been compiled by the Secretary of State since 1903, when Oregon became one of the first states to provide for the printing and distribution of such a publication. One copy of the Voters' Pamphlet is mailed to every household in the state. Additional copies are available at the State Capitol, local post offices, courthouses and all county election offices.

WEBSITE

Most of the information contained in this Voters' Pamphlet is also available in the Online Voters' Guide on the World Wide Web at <http://www.sos.state.or.us/elections/sep162003/sep162003.htm>

ESPAÑOL

Una versión en español de algunas partes de la Guía del Elector está a su disposición en el portal del Internet cuya dirección aparece arriba. Conscientes de que este material en línea podría no llegar adecuadamente a todos los electores que necesitan este servicio, se invita a toda persona a imprimir la versión en línea y circularla a aquellos electores que no tengan acceso a una computadora.

ATTENTION:

The State of Oregon prints measure arguments as submitted by the author. The state *does not correct* punctuation, grammar, syntax errors or inaccurate information. The only changes made are attempts to correct spelling errors if the word as originally submitted is not in the dictionary.

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YOUR VOTED BALLOT MUST BE RETURNED (POSTMARKS DO NOT COUNT) TO YOUR COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE BY ELECTION DAY, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2003.

County Elections Offices are open on election day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Measure No. 29

House Joint Resolution 18—Referred to the Electorate of Oregon by the Legislative Assembly of the 2003 Legislature to be voted on at the Special Election, September 16, 2003.

BALLOT TITLE

29 AMENDS CONSTITUTION: AUTHORIZES STATE OF OREGON TO INCUR GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT FOR SAVINGS ON PENSION LIABILITIES.

RESULT OF "YES" VOTE: "Yes" vote authorizes state to incur general obligation debt for savings on pension liabilities.

RESULT OF "NO" VOTE: "No" vote does not authorize state to incur general obligation debt for savings on pension liabilities.

SUMMARY: This measure amends the Oregon Constitution to authorize the State of Oregon to incur debt to finance pension liabilities of the state at a lower cost to the state and to pay costs of issuing and incurring indebtedness. The measure authorizes the Legislative Assembly to enact implementing legislation.

The measure specifies that indebtedness authorized by the measure is a general obligation of the state, backed by the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state, except ad valorem taxing power. The measure limits the amount of indebtedness outstanding at any time to one percent of the real market value of property in the state.

ESTIMATE OF FINANCIAL IMPACT: This measure has no direct financial effect to state or local government expenditures or revenues. However, general obligation indebtedness provides the lowest cost alternative among financing mechanisms. To the extent that the State of Oregon uses the authority to issue general obligation indebtedness rather than using more costly financing mechanisms, the State of Oregon should experience lower financing costs.

TEXT OF MEASURE

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

PARAGRAPH 1. The Constitution of the State of Oregon is amended by creating a new Article to be known as Article XI-O, such Article to read:

ARTICLE XI-O

SECTION 1. (1) In the manner provided by law and notwithstanding the limitations contained in section 7, Article XI of this Constitution, the credit of the State of Oregon may be loaned and indebtedness incurred to finance the State of Oregon's pension liabilities. Indebtedness authorized by this section also may be used to pay costs of issuing or incurring indebtedness under this section.

(2) Indebtedness incurred under this section is a general obligation of the State of Oregon and must contain a direct promise on behalf of the State of Oregon to pay the principal, premium, if any, and interest on that indebtedness. The State of Oregon shall pledge its full faith and credit and taxing power to pay that indebtedness; however, the ad valorem taxing power of the State of Oregon may not be pledged to pay that indebtedness. The amount of indebtedness authorized by this section and outstanding at any time may not exceed one percent of the real market value of all property in the state.

SECTION 2. Indebtedness incurred under section 1 of this Article may be refunded with like obligations.

SECTION 3. The Legislative Assembly may enact legislation to carry out the provisions of this Article.

SECTION 4. This Article supersedes all conflicting provisions of this Constitution.

PARAGRAPH 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at a special election held throughout this state as provided in section 2, chapter 592, Oregon Laws 2003 (Enrolled House Bill 2651).

NOTE: **Boldfaced** type indicates new language; *[brackets and italic]* type indicates deletions or comments.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This measure amends the Oregon Constitution to authorize the State of Oregon to incur debt to finance the pension liabilities of the state at a lower cost to the state and to pay costs of issuing and incurring indebtedness. The measure authorizes the Legislative Assembly to enact implementing legislation.

The measure specifies that indebtedness authorized by the measure is a general obligation of the state, backed by the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state, except ad valorem taxing power. The measure limits the amount of indebtedness outstanding at any time to one percent of the real market value of property in the state.

(This impartial statement explaining the ballot measure was provided by the legislature of the 2003 Regular Session.)

Measure No. 29 Arguments

LEGISLATIVE ARGUMENT IN SUPPORT

MEASURE 29 WILL SAVE TAXPAYERS MONEY

As Oregon has tried to address its budget difficulties over the past two years, there have been many challenges. But one thing all of us agree on is that we should find ways to reduce costs and make our tax dollars go further to protect vital services for Oregonians.

That is why we joined our colleagues of both parties to refer Measure 29 to the ballot, and why we are asking you to vote Yes.

The legislature wants to authorize the State Treasurer to issue pension obligation bonds to refinance Oregon's PERS obligation — a debt the State already owes at an interest rate of 8%. We have this opportunity to refinance because of the low interest rates available right now.

Just like many homeowners are refinancing their home mortgages, the State should take advantage of these historically low rates, which can save Oregon more than \$1 billion over the next 25 years. The money saved will help reduce cuts and protect services that all Oregonians rely on.

The question is, How should this debt be refinanced? There are two choices:

- 1) General obligation bonds, which are less expensive because of lower interest rates; or,
- 2) Certificates of participation, which are more expensive because of higher interest rates and insurance costs.

Because general obligation bonds are less expensive, they provide Oregon more for its money, saving taxpayers approximately \$44 million over certificates of participation.

A vote of the people is required to authorize the use of general obligation bonds, so the legislature referred this matter to the public as Ballot Measure 29.

A YES vote will save Oregon approximately \$44 million in costs, and refinancing the PERS obligation can save the State more than \$1 billion overall.

Measure 29 earned overwhelming bipartisan support in the legislature because it is simple common sense, fiscally responsible, and a good idea for Oregon. Please join us in voting **Yes on Measure 29.**

Committee Members:

Senator Roger Beyer
Representative Lane Shetterly
Representative Joanne Verger

Appointed By:

President of the Senate
Speaker of the House
Speaker of the House

(This Joint Legislative Committee was appointed to provide the legislative argument in support of the ballot measure pursuant to ORS 251.245.)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Oregon's Business Leaders Support Measure 29

It is a well-worn phrase: "Why can't government run more like a business?" In fact, there are many cases when the principles of the private sector can improve the government's bottom line and accountability. Measure 29 is such a case.

With this Measure, government has an opportunity to refinance its debt obligation and save us money. This is a sound financial decision, and that is why we strongly urge our fellow Oregonians to join us in supporting it.

In the private sector, we are always looking for ways to lower the cost of debt in order to re-invest in the core business. That is what Measure 29 will do for Oregon. By refinancing the debt we all owe for the pension system, we can save over a billion dollars. That money, in turn, can be used on things that will improve the business climate and the lives of Oregonians: education, health care and other critical services.

Measure 29 is especially welcome because:

- It allows the Treasurer to use the lowest-cost tool for this re-financing.
- It will not raise taxes.
- And it is very carefully written: Measure 29 does not open any opportunities for abuse. It can only be used for this specific, money saving purpose.

Please join Oregon's businesses — large, small, and those in between — by voting yes on Measure 29.

Kenneth Thrasher, CEO
Compli

Lynn Lundquist, President
Oregon Business Association

Richard Solomon, CPA

(This information furnished by Kenneth Thrasher, CEO, Compli; Richard B. Solomon, CPA; Lynn Lundquist, Oregon Business Association.)

(This space purchased for \$500 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the State of Oregon, nor does the state warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

Measure No. 29 Arguments

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

An Important Message from State Treasurer Randall Edwards
With Your Help, We Can Save Millions of Tax Dollars

Dear Fellow Oregonian,

As your State Treasurer, it is my job to make fiscally responsible decisions about our money and any debts the state incurs.

That is why I asked the Legislature to place Measure 29 on the ballot. This Measure will refinance the debt Oregon owes for its pension system, saving us more than \$1 billion.

The historically low interest rates we currently are seeing represent perhaps a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for taxpayers, just as it is for homeowners who are taking advantage of these rates to refinance their mortgages.

As an employer, the State faces a very large debt to the Public Employee Retirement System. With your support, I will be able to issue general obligation bonds to refinance this debt at the lowest cost and the greatest savings.

To do that, however, I need your permission. The Oregon Constitution requires that I get voter approval for these general obligation bonds. And we must act quickly, before interest rates go up. That is why you are voting on Measure 29 now.

If Measure 29 passes, I will immediately issue bonds that can save all of us more than \$1 billion on our PERS obligation over the next 20 years. It will also mean immediate savings of \$90 million that can help ease our current budget crisis. In a time when we are facing terrible cuts, this is especially important.

Measure 29 will not raise your taxes. It will save you money.

Please join me in voting yes on Measure 29!

Sincerely,

Randall Edwards
 Oregon State Treasurer

(This information furnished by Randall Edwards, Oregon State Treasurer, Oregon State Treasury.)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

An Urgent Message from The Coalition for School Funding Now!

IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR SCHOOLS, PLEASE VOTE YES ON MEASURE 29

The Coalition for School Funding Now! is an independent, non-partisan voice for Oregon's K-12 public schools. We are a grassroots statewide organization made up of parents, business leaders, community leaders, education advocates, students, teachers, school board members and concerned citizens who believe that each K-12 student in Oregon should have access to a high quality public education.

We advocate for our schools' immediate needs, and for long term solutions to Oregon's school funding problems. While Measure 29 isn't the ultimate solution to Oregon's school funding problems, it will help ease state budget cuts by many millions of dollars.

Measure 29 will reduce the cost of Oregon's PERS obligation by well over a billion dollars over the next twenty years. It does that by taking advantage of the current low interest rates, not by hurting people's pensions. The savings will be felt by our state government (which provides most of the funding for schools) AND by local school districts. That is money that can go back into the classroom.

Measure 29 will not raise taxes. It is something we can all do to help our schools and improve the state's fiscal management. Please Vote YES on Measure 29.

(This information furnished by William D. Thorndike, Jr., Coalition For School Funding Now!)

(This space purchased for \$500 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

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Measure No. 29 Arguments

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

MEASURE 29 IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR OREGON'S SENIORS By Esther and Hugh Ewart

As older Oregonians, we have been especially troubled by some of the challenges created by our budget crisis. Many of the cuts have had a terrible impact on Oregon's seniors:

- Loss of help with prescription medicine that people need to live;
- Cuts to home assistance that help the elderly maintain an independent life;
- In some cases, it has meant the loss of their homes.

At the same time, many seniors face limited, fixed incomes. We have to be very careful with our money.

That is why Measure 29 is so important for senior citizens: it will save over a billion dollars that can be applied to critical services.

And Measure 29 will do so without raising a penny in taxes. In fact, it will lower the amount of debt we are all responsible for by taking advantage of low interest rates. And while Measure 29 refinances Oregon's public pension obligation, it will not harm a penny of any senior's retirement. That is important.

Finally, we can be confident that Measure 29 doesn't open the door to any future problems or mischief. It is very carefully drawn as a one-time-only money saving device. It does not allow the issuance of any other bonds without a vote of the people.

Measure 29 is a very good deal for all Oregonians. But it is a Yes vote that Oregon's seniors should feel especially good about casting.

(This information furnished by Esther Ewart, Hugh Ewart.)

(This space purchased for \$500 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

YES ON MEASURE 29: SAVE MONEY, HELP PROTECT SCHOOLS, SENIORS AND SERVICES WITHOUT RAISING TAXES

Across the nation individuals are taking advantage of historic low interest rates by refinancing their mortgages. Why? Because it will save them many thousands of dollars over the life of their loan.

Oregon's state government has the same kind of opportunity with Measure 29. But in this case, it will save us over a billion dollars – and that's just for a start.

MEASURE 29: SAVING OVER \$1 BILLION BY REFINANCING OUR CURRENT PERS DEBT

We have all read about the huge shortfall in the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS). With Measure 29, the State Treasurer will be able to issue General Obligation Bonds that will in effect re-finance the PERS debt, saving over \$1 billion over the next twenty four years. That won't increase the money we owe – it will actually decrease our debt by saving tremendous amounts of interest. And Measure 29 won't harm a single person's pension.

MEASURE 29: HELPING SCHOOLS, SENIORS AND OTHER CRITICAL SERVICES

The savings from Measure 29 is money that would otherwise have to be paid by every state and local government agency, including every school district in Oregon. That means more desperately needed funding for our classrooms, senior services, health care, mental health care and other critical services – all without raising state or local taxes.

WHY DO WE HAVE TO VOTE ON MEASURE 29?

The most cost effective way to refinance our public debt is through general obligation bonds, which requires a technical change to the Oregon Constitution. Without Measure 29, we will have to use more expensive methods.

As voters, we sometimes face difficult choices on the ballot. This isn't one of them.

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 29

"It's a sensible plan that should result in substantial savings..."

The Register-Guard, July 21, 2003.

(This information furnished by J. Kevin McAuliffe, Committee to Save Us Money.)

(This space purchased for \$500 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

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Measure No. 29 Arguments

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

DON'T USE CREDIT CARDS TO PAY OREGON'S BILLS VOTE "NO" ON BALLOT MEASURE 29

• PAYING BILLS WITH A CREDIT CARD

During a severe spending crisis, do we want to give politicians a new credit card to pay off Oregon's PERS debt? A card that will take a generation to pay off and will only be paid with new taxes? A card with a balance that can increase along with your property values - All to ensure that Oregon's public employees enjoy a retirement plan that's probably better than the one you have? That's what Ballot Measure 29 does.

• A TAX TRAP

Measure 29 is a new tax. Supporters say it will save money by refinancing some of the state's PERS debt at lower interest rates. But the legislature will simply squander any savings realized, leaving you and your children holding the bag for billions of dollars. Where will this money come from? Answer: NEW TAXES, money you could have put toward your own retirement. Higher taxes will also make it harder to build future support for schools, the elderly and public safety. Low interest rates are simply the bait used in this clever tax trap - Don't be fooled.

• SPENDING REFORM IS A BETTER ANSWER

State spending is growing at an unsustainable rate, faster than personal income. Little accountability exists - There are no outside audits of most state agencies, no formalized systems of zero-based budgeting and no systematic cost controls. Meanwhile, state assets like the SAIF corporation could be sold to retire billions in debt. PERS itself could be terminated for current workers and replaced with 401k-style plans, like the ones many Oregonians already have. Through spending reform, we can use savings to retire Oregon's PERS debt over time. Don't mortgage your children's future. Vote NO on Measure 29.

**Force legislators to institute spending reform NOW.
Don't give them a new credit card!
VOTE "NO" ON MEASURE 29.**

(This information furnished by Richard P. Burke, Libertarian Party of Oregon.)

(This space purchased for \$500 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the State of Oregon, nor does the state warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

The PERS is bankrupting our state, forcing school closures, causing loss of care for the mentally and physical impaired and driving business elsewhere.

The Oregon Public Employees Union created this scheme, the PERS retirement system, whereby all persons who could control it, the Governor, the Legislators and Judges are members. PERS has created a chasm in this state between "they, who receive it" and "us, who pay for it".

With some 260,000+ members and control of our governments, PERS is a formidable political force making it impossible for real reform. In 1994, the voters passed Measure No. 8, which would have limited the PERS pensions. The Oregon Public Employees Union challenged the people's vote in the State Supreme Court. The court and the Attorney General, representing the voters, were all members of PERS. It is little wonder, that the we lost.

PERS pensions running as high as 130% of salary, annual increases, subsidized health and dental insurance making it one of the most expensive pensions in the nation. Some of the PERS members are retiring at an early age, then rehired back to their old job, thereby taking jobs way from people, who are in real need.

Recently our school district with others issued 1.8 billion in PERS debt bonds without a notice, hearing or vote. Measure 29 is asking you to approve an additional 2 to 5 billion more in PERS debt bonds. All this just to put another band-aid on the PERS hemorrhaging financial condition.

Our government's betrayal and lack of empathy towards its citizen has to be stopped. By voting NO! on Measure 29, you can start the process.

P.S. PERS pensions are state tax exempt and will not be paying their fair share of this bond.

(This information furnished by J.F. "Mac" Macdonald.)

(This space purchased for \$500 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

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Voter Information

VOTER REGISTRATION

Who May Register to Vote

You may register to vote for the September 16, 2003, Special Election if:

- You are a citizen of the United States;
- You will be at least 18 years old by September 16, 2003; and
- You are a resident of Oregon.

How to Register to Vote

To register to vote in the September 16, 2003, election, your completed voter registration card must be either:

- Postmarked by August 26, 2003;
- Delivered to a county elections office by August 26, 2003; or
- Delivered to any voter registration agency (e.g., DMV) by August 26, 2003.

If Your Name, Mailing Address or Political Party Affiliation Has Changed

If you are currently registered to vote in Oregon but your name, mailing address or party affiliation has changed since you last completed a voter registration card, complete a new voter registration card and mail it to your county elections office.

If Your Residence Address Has Changed

If you are currently registered to vote in Oregon but your residence address has changed since you last completed a voter registration card, complete a new voter registration card and mail it to your county elections office.

If you notify your county elections office of your change of residence address after August 26, 2003, you must request that a ballot be mailed to you or go to your county elections office to get your ballot.

Where to Obtain a Voter Registration Card

As of January 1, 2003, a new voter registration form has been mandated by federal law. It is available online at the Secretary of State's web page at <http://www.sos.state.or.us/elections/other.info/vreg.htm>

Request for Voter Registration Card

(Please Print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

of forms requested: _____

MAIL TO: Office of the Secretary of State
Elections Division
141 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97310-0722

VOTE-BY-MAIL

As a voter, what do I have to do?

Your ballot packet will automatically be mailed to you between August 29 and September 2, 2003. Inside the packet you will find the ballot, a secrecy envelope and a return envelope. Once you vote the ballot, place it in the secrecy envelope and seal it in the pre-addressed return envelope. Be sure you sign the return envelope on the appropriate line. After that just return the ballot either by mail or at a designated drop site.

What if I am uncomfortable voting my ballot at home?

Privacy booths are available for you to cast your ballot. There are privacy booths at your county elections office and there may be others at drop site locations elsewhere in your county. For further information, call your county elections official.

What if I make a mistake or need a new ballot?

If your ballot is lost, destroyed, damaged or you make a mistake in marking your ballot, you may call your county elections office and request a replacement ballot. One will be mailed to you as long as you request it by September 11. After that, you may pick it up at the elections office. If you have already mailed your original ballot before you realize you made a mistake, you have cast your vote and will not be eligible for a replacement ballot.

What if my ballot doesn't come?

If you are registered to vote and have not received your ballot within a week after they are mailed, call your county elections office. They will check that your voter registration is current. If it is, they will mail you a replacement ballot.

What if I have moved and have not updated my registration?

If you were registered to vote by August 26 but now have a different address, call your county elections office for instructions on how to update your registration and receive a ballot.

Do I have to return my ballot by mail?

You have the choice of mailing your ballot or returning it to any county elections office or any designated drop site in the state. The times and locations of drop sites are available at your county elections office.

When must the voted ballot be returned?

The voted ballot must be received in any county elections office or designated drop site by 8:00 p.m. on election night. Postmarks do not count!

What if I forget to sign the return envelope?

Generally, your elections office will either return it to you for signing or they will contact you, if possible, to come to the elections office to sign it. If the return envelope does not get signed before 8:00 p.m. on September 16, the ballot will not be counted.

VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

If you are unable to vote your ballot without assistance because of a physical disability or because you are unable to read or write, contact your county elections official. They will provide two persons to assist you in voting. In order to assure the county receives your voted ballot by Election Day, contact your county elections office early to arrange for assistance. You may also select someone else of your own choice to assist you.

A cassette edition of the Voters' Pamphlet is available for Oregonians who cannot read standard print due to a visual or physical disability. To order a cassette of the Voters' Pamphlet, please contact Independent Living Resources at 503-232-7411.

County Elections Offices

Baker

Tamara J. Green
Baker County Clerk
1995 3rd St. Suite 150
Baker City, OR 97814-3398
541-523-8207 TTY 541-523-8208
e-mail: tgreen@bakercounty.org

Benton

James Morales
Elections Division
120 NW 4th St.
Corvallis, OR 97330
541-766-6756 TTY 541-766-6080 Fax 541-766-6757

Clackamas

Sherry Hall
Clackamas County Clerk
Elections Division
825 Portland Ave.
Gladstone, OR 97027
503-655-8510 TTY 503-655-1685 Fax 503-655-8461
e-mail: elections@co.clackamas.or.us
<http://www.co.clackamas.or.us/elections>

Clatsop

Elections Division
PO Box 178
Astoria, OR 97103-0178
503-325-8511 TTY 503-325-9307 Fax 503-325-9307
e-mail: nwilliams@co.clatsop.or.us
<http://www.co.clatsop.or.us>

Columbia

Elizabeth (Betty) Huser
Columbia County Clerk
Courthouse, 230 Strand St.
St. Helens, OR 97051-2089
503-397-7214 TTY 503-397-7246 Fax 503-397-7266
e-mail: huserb@co.columbia.or.us
<http://www.co.columbia.or.us>

Coos

Terri L. Turi, CMC
Coos County Clerk
Courthouse, 250 N. Baxter
Coquille, OR 97423-1899
541-396-3121, Ext. 301 TTY 1-800-735-2900
Fax 541-396-6551
e-mail: elections@co.coos.or.us
<http://www.co.coos.or.us>

Crook

Deanna (Dee) Berman
Crook County Clerk
300 NE Third, Room 23
Prineville, OR 97754-1919
541-447-6553 TTY 541-416-4963

Curry

Reneé Kolen
Curry County Clerk
PO Box 746
Gold Beach, OR 97444
541-247-3297 TTY 1-800-735-2900 Fax 541-247-6440

Deschutes

Nancy Blankenship
Deschutes County Clerk
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