

32235 SE Pipeline Rd.  
Gresham, OR 97080

March 13, 2013

Honorable Chair Representative Chris Garrett, Vice-Chair Representative Wally Hicks, Vice-Chair Representative Val Hoyle, Representative Bob Jenson, Representative Bill Kennemer, Representative Paul Holvey, Representative Phil Barnhart, Representative Vicki Berger, and Representative Michael Dembrow,

I oppose HBJR 32 which removes the position of County Clerk. Currently, the office of County Clerk is elected by local County electors. It is followed by HB3304 creating a Commission on Fitness of County Clerks, a state government agency. This is an assault on local control of the people. Consolidates power to the state level. This produces a different type of political structure than the representative type of government we have enjoyed thus far in our country.

The office of County Clerk is currently the only qualified person to conduct elections in our state. The County Clerk is a local elected office with provisions set forth in Article II Sections 18 for recall if necessary. At any rate, is accountable to the people directly.

This new system would concentrate the power at the state level. This is great loss for freedom by losing local control of this important position.

Recommend an Amendment that would require a statement on the ballot, of the difference between they two types of systems. One being Article II Section 18 and HB that would be replaced and by HB3304 proposals.

I have been attempting to observe election processes in our county primarily but in the large system more recently. I am gravely concerned about this bill. I have had the opportunity to appeal my concerns to our County Commissioners who appointed our County Clerk. As a citizen, this gave me more ability to hold my County Clerk accountable, than a bureaucracy that is given wide power, and little motivation for accountability to the citizens. If you go forward with this bill, I will lose all confidence in our election process. This gives the state elected officials power to appoint a commission who will oversee these same officers future elections. The accountability needs to be tied directly to the people.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

Respectfully,  
Janice Dysinger