

32235 SE Pipeline Rd.
Gresham, OR 97080

March 18, 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 HB 2198.

I believe it violates 4 principles of a free society.

Personal Choice

This bill weakens the requirement for voter registration agency to be neutral in it's influence on the voter registration choices. This is not acceptable for a state approved agency to influence party registration. Also by changing the wording from shall to may, these agencies may find that they have permission to copy the information off the registration cards for 'other' purposes, which currently is not permissible by law. Changes the word SHALL not (line 14, page 1) to MAY not: seek to influence the political preference or party registration of a person registering to vote; etc Another word change of SHALL to MAY (line 3, page 2)...information relating to a declination to register to vote MAY not be used for any purpose other than voter registration.

Fiscal Responsibility

Multiple agencies doing the same task, requiring them to report among other things 'verbal' changes in a registrants information. This is an impossible task to transmit information clearly and accurately. Requires lots of extra work for each of these departments, when clearly this was not the designated purpose of that agency. This will cost much in manpower hours and reporting and recording.

Limited Government

Weakening laws that would prohibit registration agencies influence over voters choices . Government approved agencies should remain neutral in their process of registering voters..

Local Control

Local control is lost when a 'voter registration agency' through a state agency forward "verbal" information to the County Clerk. Verbal information may be misunderstood, miss-spelled, etc. This blurs the responsibility of who and what information is supplied on the registration record. Supplying false information is a class C felony for the elector. This process should remain with the local Clerk and the elector.

Respectfully,
Janice Dysinger