

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Barnhart, Berger, Dembrow, Hicks, Holvey, Hoyle, Jenson, Kennemer, Garrett
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Erin Seiler, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	6/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Specifies time frame to file candidate portrait and statement for voters' pamphlet and deadline to file signatures in lieu of voters' pamphlet fees. Modifies placement of disclaimers included in voters' pamphlet. Revises language pertaining to withdrawal of pamphlet material. Requires statements and arguments be filed electronically. Provides rulemaking authority to Secretary of State for purpose of verification of active elector signatures on petition filed in lieu of payment of voters' pamphlet fees.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Online process for filing voters' pamphlet
- Disclaimer provisions in pamphlet
- Timing of filing statement
- Change to all electronic filing
- Technical issues related to electronic filing
- Candidates ability to access computer
- Ideas for improving online filing system for candidates
- Alignment of signature verification process for petition filed in lieu of payment voters' pamphlet fees

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon voters' pamphlet was first published by the Secretary of State in 1904 to disseminate the text of measures to be voted on by the people of Oregon. Beginning in 1910, the legislature ordered that information about state level candidates running for office also be included in the pamphlet. Oregon became one of the first states to print and distribute such a publication. A copy of the voters' pamphlet is mailed to every household in the state preceding each primary and general election, and before special elections involving state measures or candidates for state office.

Senate Bill 147 makes several process-related changes to the voters' pamphlet. It requires that all voters' pamphlet statements be filed electronically through ORESTAR (the Oregon Elections System for Tracking and Reporting); modifies the disclaimer placement requirement; establishes parameters for submitting signatures so that the Elections Division and county clerks have time to verify those signatures; and reiterates the Secretary of State's rulemaking authority to establish procedures for verifying active elector signatures on a petition in lieu of payment of voters' pamphlet fees.