

HB 2177

Relating to Elections

House Bill 2177 allows electronic records of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to be constituted as a completed voter registration card. The bill directs ODOT to provide the Secretary of State (SOS) with electronic records for this purpose, containing name, age, residence and citizenship information, along with electronic signatures. The Secretary of State will add persons who are identified as qualified to vote, but not already registered, to the elector registration list, unless they decline registration within 21 calendar days of notification. The bill requires the Secretary of State or county clerk to notify potential voters of how they may opt-out of voter registration, and of how they may choose a political affiliation.

Additionally, the bill increases the maximum precinct size to 10,000 electors, and allows minor parties to utilize the total number of registered electors on July 1, 2015, for purposes of maintaining status as a minor political party for the 2016 general election.

2015-17 biennium fiscal impacts of the bill include approximately \$753,000 of largely one-time costs to the Secretary of State to implement the measure, and of approximately \$768,000 of costs to counties to maintain expanded voter registration rolls. Budget adjustments to support the program will be included in the Secretary of State or end-of-session budget bill.

The General Government Subcommittee recommends HB 2177 be reported out do pass.