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**Written Testimony before the Senate Rules Committee In Support of Senate Bill 29**

Chair Rosenbaum, Vice-Chair Ferrioli, Senators Burdick, Boquist and Beyer,

Thank you for the opportunity to appear at today's hearing regarding Senate Bill 29. The Oregon Association of County Clerk's (OACC) supports SB 29, the Association's proposal to reform Precinct Committee Person Elections. The changes to PCP elections recommended by OACC include:

- ♦ If the number of candidates that file is greater than number of positions, they will all be on the ballot.
- ♦ If number of candidates is equal to or less than the positions available, those positions will be closed; and the remaining vacant positions will be available for write in.
- ♦ After filing deadline, county has 10 days to close the positions and declare the non-filled for positions as vacant for write-in.
- ♦ No later than the 8<sup>th</sup> day before election date, a person must file a request and declaration of intent their write in votes be counted. If no person files a request, the position would be considered vacant.
- ♦ Eliminates the gender designation (committee man, committee woman) changes number of positions to one for every 250 electors, or major fraction thereof, registered on January 1 of the Primary election year.
- ♦ Some timeline changes: term of office is from the [24<sup>th</sup>] 35<sup>th</sup> day after primary until the [24<sup>th</sup>] 35<sup>th</sup> day after the date of the next primary.
- ♦ Acceptance of office is unnecessary because candidate filed the Declaration of Intent, acknowledging they will accept the office if elected.
- ♦ No later than the 37<sup>th</sup> day after the Primary, the list shall be published and maintained on web site.

What does not change: filing deadline remains 70<sup>th</sup> day before primary, election still requires at least 3 write in votes.

These changes streamline election procedures for conduction PCP elections in a more cost efficient manner, resulting in saving money for counties. The Oregon Association of County Clerk's urges you to support SB 29.