

March 9, 2015

TO: House Committee on Rules
FR: David Rosenfeld, Executive Director, Oregon State Public Interest Research Group
(OSPIRG)
RE: House Bills 2974 and 2944

OSPIRG supports both House Bill 2974 and House Bill 2944 as introduced and commends Reps. Lininger, Parrish, McLain, Hoyle and Johnson for their efforts to improve public participation and input in the redistricting process.

If we had to choose between one of the bills, our preference is for HB 2974, because it acknowledges that some districts experience more population changes than others, and ensures that be a factor in prioritizing the location of the hearings.

That said, the approach outlined in HB 2944 regarding the location of hearings would also represent an improvement in the current process.

Thank you for your time considering this important matter.