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**Written testimony before the House Rules Committee regarding House Bill 3297**

Chair Hoyle, Vice-Chairs Smith Warner and Gilliam, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for allowing the Association of County Clerks (OACC) to weigh in on HB 3297. OACC would like to point out several serious concerns we have with regard to this bill.

- 1) **Financial Impact:** As you are all aware, counties all across Oregon are in a tough financial spot. The changes this bill seeks to make could significantly increase the cost of conducting General elections, which are elections where the counties typically cover the vast majority of the costs.
- 2) **Delayed Election Results / Hand Count Required:** The tabulation systems currently being used in 30 of the 36 Oregon counties would not facilitate this type of election reporting. This would force Clerk's and Elections Officials to resort to a hand Count process.
- 3) **Requires Extensive Voter Education:** These proposed changes would mandate much more complex election result reporting. This has the potential to create confusion with electors. Voter confusion could lead to frustration and perhaps, less voter participation.

Thank you once again for allowing OACC to be part of this discussion. If you have any questions or would like OACC to provide analysis on any concepts you might be considering, please feel free to contact us at your convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

OACC