

**Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session**  
**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**  
**House Committee On Rules**

**MEASURE: HB 2176 A**  
**CARRIER: Rep. Nosse**

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 03/16/15

**Action:** Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

**Meeting Dates:** 02/16, 03/16

**Vote:**

Yeas: 8 - Barnhart, Hoyle, Kennemer, McLane, Nosse, Rayfield, Smith Warner, Wilson

Exc: 1 - Gilliam

**Prepared By:** Erin Seiler, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Removes requirement that person elected to county office provide county clerk with certificate of election. Permits certain election documents to be filed electronically. Requires electronic filing of candidate's nominating petition or declaration of candidacy for primary election. Changes certain ballot markings from "Presidential only" to "Federal only." Alters certain filing deadlines. Adds prospective petition to requirement that full text of measure being circulated must be carried by signature-gatherers and available for review. Removes requirement that signature sheets for initiative or referral petition be attached to full and correct copy of measure. Requires Secretary of State (SOS) to establish process for modifying petition templates. Requires that one copy of prospective initiative and referral petitions be sent to required officials, rather than two. Permits district attorney to make clerical corrections to ballot title for district measure. Requires all estimates, portraits, statements and arguments for voters' pamphlet to be filed electronically. Makes candidate's statement for voters' pamphlet subject to prohibition on and penalties for false publication. Requires that district elections authority include ballot title for district election on measure at the time measure is submitted to county elections officials. Provides person, to whom civil penalty may be imposed ability to request hearing 20 days from service date on notice. Directs SOS to prepare and allow electors, chief petitioners and their agents to use electronic signature sheets to collect signatures for prospective initiative petition. Requires SOS to verify signatures in certain instances where county clerks currently verify signatures. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Provisions of measure
- Reasons for alignment of filing timelines
- Availability of full text of initiative or referral when gathering signatures

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Requires electronic filing of candidate's nominating petition or declaration of candidacy for primary election. Adds prospective petition to requirement that full text of measure being circulated must be carried by signature-gatherers and available for review. Requires that district elections authority include ballot title for district election on measure at the time measure is submitted to county elections official. Provides person, to whom civil penalty may be imposed, ability to request hearing 20 days from service date on the notice. Directs SOS to prepare and allow electors, chief petitioners and their agents to use electronic signature sheets to collect signatures for a prospective initiative petition. Requires SOS verify signatures in certain instances where county clerks currently verify signatures.

**BACKGROUND:**

Each legislative session the Secretary of State's Elections Division introduces a measure that identifies and resolves technical issues and inconsistencies in election statutes. House Bill 2176-A is this measure for the 2015 Legislative Session. The measure addresses a number of issues including: alignment of election administration deadlines, modernization of voters' pamphlet filing procedures, updating signature-gathering process and increasing efficiency for election administration for local governments and county elections officials.