

March 9, 2017

**Oregon Progressive Party
Position on Bill at 2017
Session of Oregon Legislature:**



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HB 2945: Support

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party (OPP) supports this bill, which would prevent incumbent officeholders from effectively controlling who runs for the same office in the primary election following the officeholder's "retirement."

It would preclude the type of "office bequeathing" we have seen in the case of the Whitsetts in eastern Oregon in 2016 and Frank Shields in Portland in 2006. An incumbents should not be able to limit the field in the primary election by informing only a select few (or a select one) of the incumbent's intent to withdraw his or her candidacy after the primary election filing deadline.

Oregon Progressive Party

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