

As an active PCP in Clackamas County I personally oppose HB 2571 which would remove PCP candidates from county ballots. I think that if the changes in SB 211 regarding the PCP election process were adopted, that would significantly reduce the county clerks' workload. One of the changes provides a process for pre-qualification of write-ins; there are also timeline changes and other housekeeping changes that would benefit the PCP election process. SB 211 was requested by the Oregon Association of County Clerks and moved forward with the sponsorship of the interim Senate Committee on Education.

What really becomes cumbersome for the clerks is the write-in candidate process. SB 211 propose a pre-qualification process for write-in candidates that would significantly reduce the number of write-ins. PCPs have a serious role in party operation and those willing to take on that responsibility should voluntarily appear on the ballot. There are currently write-ins where neighbors or friends just gather 3 votes to push someone into the position, often without the candidate's knowledge. That is not a good process for the parties or for the candidate.

Some of the special district local governments in Oregon had the same write-in issues and legislation enacted a few years ago used the pre-qualification process defined in SB 211 for pre-qualification of write-in and that has really cleaned up the write-in process. Thank you for your consideration.

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