

**SB 5536 Opposing Cuts to Voters' Pamphlet** Rachel Ozretich, M.S., CFLE  
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As the Chair of the Election Integrity Caucus of the Democratic Party of Oregon, I have been authorized to express our belief in the importance of the Oregon Voters' Pamphlet and dismay at the idea of making cuts to its funding.

I know from personal experience that it can be quite daunting to face a long ballot that includes measures and candidates about many of which I may have little or no information. We believe the Voters' Pamphlet:

- Increases voter turnout.
  - The voters' pamphlet empowers more Oregon citizens to vote because the voters' pamphlet provides trusted nonpartisan resources of information about ballot measures, as well s diverse opinions about candidates (including the those of various individual citizens and groups). Many, if not most, voters may have little access to this quality and scope of information otherwise.
  - This may be especially important for many low-income and/or rural voters, fewer of whom may have access to print and electronic sources of election-related information.
  - The voters' pamphlet often can be found around the home and peak the interest of youth, who may be more likely to register and vote when they are old enough.
  - Increasing voter turnout is also important to the reputation of the United States among other democracies due to its very low voter turnout. Low voter turnout may be viewed as a key negative indicator of the health of a democracy.
- Improves the quality of election outcomes.
  - The voters' pamphlet helps Oregon voters to base their decisions on a wider, more accurate, more diverse, and more nuanced foundation of information on which to base their votes than most voters would otherwise be able to do - especially considering the large numbers of ballot measures Oregonians often have been asked to consider in recent years.

The creation and distribution of the same high quality Oregon voters' pamphlet as Oregon voters have learned to expect is one of the most key responsibilities of the office of the Secretary of State. It is a key to the quality of democracy in our state. Its funding should not be cut!

Thank you very much!