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Written Testimony of the Oregon Association of County Clerks (OACC) in Opposition to House Bill 3408

Chair Williamson, Vice-Chairs McLane and Rayfield, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony regarding House Bill 3408.

HB 3408 would require county clerks to attempt to collect missing information on voter registration cards through all sources available, then require the clerk to document at least three attempts to contact the registrant if the clerk is unable to register the person.

County election officials already make efforts to contact individuals that have submitted incomplete information necessary to register to vote. To give you an idea of the scope, attached are 2016 photos from Multnomah County Elections, consisting of 2700 voter registration cards with incomplete or inaccurate information.

HB 3408 also has the potential to create variations in the registration process, depending on the county a person is trying to register in: The level of customer service; the appearance of disenfranchisement; the financial impact; and the accessible resources for the county has huge bearings on the efficiency of this new requirement. The following inefficiencies would be generated by this legislation:

- 1- Manual card file and documentation will need to be logged with each record because they are not 'registerable' in OCVR.
- 2- There is no indication as to how long the records would need to be archived.
- 3- It is unclear what three contact methods would be considered acceptable for counties to use when contacting those attempting to register.

This bill would create an unnecessary set of manual processes, with little or no value to the voter, when Oregon election officials are already making every additional attempt to collect accurate information from prospective voters.

OACC strongly urges you to oppose House Bill 3408.





