House Bill 2984

Sponsored by Representatives RAYFIELD, DOHERTY, EVANS

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Requires that Secretary of State provide official Military or Overseas Elector Ballot for Presidential Nominating Contests that permits military or overseas electors to rank candidates for party nomination for President of United States by order of preference.

Applies to presidential primary elections occurring on or after January 1, 2024.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the use of ranked choice ballots for presidential nominations.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 253.500 to 253.640.

SECTION 2. (1) The Secretary of State shall design an official Military or Overseas Elector Ballot for Presidential Nomination Contests.

(2) Notwithstanding ORS 253.545 and 254.115, the ballot designed under this section shall be the official primary election ballot provided to military or overseas electors for each primary election at which electors vote for candidates for the party nomination for President of the United States.

(3) The ballot designed under this section shall be identical to the official primary election ballot described in ORS 254.115, except that the ballot must allow an elector to vote for candidates for the party nomination for President of the United States who qualified for the ballot under ORS 249.078 by ranking the candidates in order of choice. The number of allowable rankings shall be determined by the secretary by rule, but shall permit an elector to:

(a) Vote for only one candidate; and
(b) Rank no fewer than six candidates.

(4) A vote for a candidate for the party nomination for President of the United States that is cast on a ballot designed under this section shall be tallied as one vote for the highest ranked candidate that the elector voted for who has not withdrawn from the election under ORS 249.170.

(5) The secretary and county clerks shall ensure that each elector who receives a ballot designed under this section also receives a detailed description of how:

(a) To rank candidates for the party nomination for President of the United States; and
(b) The ballot will be tallied.

SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2019 Act applies to primary elections at which electors vote for candidates for the party nomination for President of the United States that occur on or after January 1, 2024.