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February 8, 2022

Chair Smith Warner, Vice- Chair Fahey, Vice-Chair Breese Iverson, and Members of the Committee:

I'm honored to serve as Oregon's 28th Secretary of State. Our Elections Division is responsible for ensuring safe, fair, efficient, and accessible elections at all levels of the process. As Oregon's chief elections officer, one of our top priorities is expanding access to the ballot and promoting civic engagement through the voting process. HB 4133 would help further both these goals. I am excited to support this policy and urge the committee to do the same.

Oregon became a leader in voter registration after the passage of the Motor Voter Law ([HB 2177](#)) in 2015. By automatically registering eligible Oregonians to vote when Oregonians interact with the Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle Services (DMV). As we all know, the first-time people interact with the DMV is most often when they are 16 getting their license. By streamlining voter registration into an existing governmental process common in people's lives, we removed a massive barrier and added hundreds of thousands of voters since implementation in 2015. Research from the [Brennan Center](#) and [American Center for Progress](#) show the positive effect automatic voter registration has on turnout across all ideological and demographic spectrums. This is not a policy to move us right or the left, this is a policy to move us forward.

HB 4133 makes improvements to Online Voter Registration (OVR) system. Currently, Oregonians who do not have a driver's license or state issued identification (ID) must register to vote with a paper form due to lack of signature on file with the DMV. The bill allows for registrants to upload an image of their signature with the last four digits of their social security number. The bill also gives the SoS the option to allow a third-party organization to submit registrations cards electronically that ensures national registrations tools like [vote.gov](#) integrate seamlessly with Oregon's existing OVR system. From an equity perspective, we know people without a driver's license or state issued ID must still print, sign, and mail registration form. This is a barrier to completing voter registration and results in Oregonians not registering, updating their registration, or casting their vote. This change significantly broadens OVR access for individuals without licenses.

We look forward to the opportunity to continue this collaboration through implementation of this policy to ensure the most effective and efficient systems are established. We appreciate Rep. Fahey and Senator Lawrence-Spence for working with us on this policy. Our democracy is stronger when more people participate in elections and make their voices heard. HB 4133 will build off the good work of the Motor

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Voter law and continue to decrease barriers for Oregonians to be civically engaged and to exercise their right to vote. For these reasons, I strongly encourage your support of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Fagan", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State

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