

Isabela Villarreal
333 SE 2nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97214
Next Up Action Fund



Re: Support Online Voter Registration Modernization, HB 4133

February 8th, 2022

Chair Smith Warner, Co Chairs Breese-Iverson and Fahey, and members of the House Committee on Rules,

My name is Isabela and I'm the Policy and Communications Manager with Next Up Action Fund. We work to build political power with diverse young people to achieve a more just and equitable Oregon. I'm here today in strong support of HB 4133 which will modernize our Online Voter Registration (OVR+) in Oregon.

For context, we introduced a bill last session, HB 2499, which included OVR+, and it passed unanimously of this committee.

Oregon's OVR system is currently limited to people who have either an Oregon driver's license or a non-driver ID card issued by the Oregon DMV. People without a DMV-issued ID must still print, fill-out, sign, and mail a registration form. We know this is a major barrier to completing voter registration and results in Oregonians not registering, updating their registration, or casting their vote.

HB 4133 will help modernize our online voter registration system by allowing for eligible registrants to upload an image of their signature and register online with the last four digits of their social security number. **With an OVR+ system, more Oregonians will be able to conveniently register to vote and update their registrations, clerks will have less manual data entry, and can save money by reducing both labor costs for transcription and paper voter registration forms.** This policy is a win-win-win for Oregon.

Currently, people completing a paper registration form can provide either their Oregon DMV number or the last four digits of their SSN to verify their identity. OVR+ provides the same options for people registering online, replacing thousands of paper forms. In fact, OVR+ is a more secure means of registering to vote, because the online system is not prone to the same clerical errors that are associated with paper registration forms.

OVR+ has already been implemented or passed in nine other states plus the District of Columbia. Maine, Colorado, Delaware, Minnesota, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Vermont, and Missouri have all implemented (or are in the process of doing so, in the cases of Maine and Colorado) OVR+. Oregon has always been on the cutting edge of election modernizations. If Kentucky and Missouri have figured this out, Oregon should have too.

I strongly urge you to vote in support of HB 4133 to build the strongest democracy we can.

Thank you for your time, and I am happy to answer any questions you might have,

Isabela Villarreal

Policy and Communications Manager