



February 8, 2022

House Committee on Rules
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Testimony in Support of House Bill 4133

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon (ACLU of Oregon). The ACLU of Oregon is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing civil liberties and civil rights, with more than 28,000 members statewide. **The ACLU of Oregon supports House Bill 4133, which will create an Online Voter Registration System that will increase access to Oregon's existing online voter registration system, while improving the accuracy and security of Oregon's voter files.**

Accuracy and access to voter registration is important to uphold a strong participating democracy in Oregon. Currently, Oregon's OVR system is limited to people who have either an Oregon driver's license or a non-driver ID card issued by the Oregon DMV. This limitation creates barriers to accessing voter registration across our state. House Bill 4133 will increase access and aid modernization of our online voter registration system (OVR+) by allowing voter 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. An OVR+ system is an important innovation that eliminates a major impediment to ballot access for certain populations.

The modernization of our system will improve efficiency for the State's voter registration system. Administratively, the OVR+ system's efficiency will allow Clerks to have less manual data entry, which can save the State money by reducing both labor costs for transcription and paper voter registration forms. Simultaneously, the system will increase accuracy. The paper-registration process opens the door to potential data-entry errors. With an automated system, this risk of human error is all but eliminated.

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. It is important for Oregon to join other states and use the OVR+ system to increase voter's access to registration.

The ACLU of Oregon urges your support and passage of House Bill 4147.

Respectfully,

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