

Senate Committee on Rules

Testimony in Support of HB 4133 A

February 22, 2022

Chair Wagner, Vice-Chair Knopp, and Senators Girod, Manning, and Taylor,

For the record, my name is Jackie Leung, Co-Chair of the Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs. I am writing to urge you to pass to HB 4133 – which requires electronic voter registration systems to allow qualified individuals to register to vote if they have a Social Security Number.

- 1. OCAPIA's role is to work toward economic, social, political, and legal equity for Oregon's Asian and Pacific Islander population. We do this through advocacy, public policy research, leadership development, and partnerships.
- 2. In our statutory role of bringing equity focus and community voice into Oregon policy making, OCAPIA strongly supports HB 4133 A.

According to the U.S. Constitution, voting is a right. Yet, since 2020, the attack on American citizens' ability to vote has increased. Legislatures in 27 states are considering more than 250

Advocating for Equity and Diversity throughout Oregon

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Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

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Vice-Chair: Toc Soneoulay-Gillespie

Commissioners: Mohamed Alyajouri John Iglesias Neha Subramanyam

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bills with restrictive provisions, tripling the number of proposals to restrict the vote compared to last year.¹

HB 4133 supports our community by establishing a modern Online Voter Registration System, allowing Oregon residents to have improved access to registering for and casting their votes. The current system only permits Oregon residents to register to vote if they have an Oregon ID or Oregon Driver license issued by the Oregon DMV.

Individuals without an Oregon ID or driver's license must download, print, and mail a signed copy of the voter registration form. Modernizing the voter registration form would reduce the burden many Oregon residents face in registering to vote, who do not have an Oregon ID or driver's license. Passing HB 4133 ensures that Oregon is meeting the intentions of the U.S. Constitution - that all citizens have a right to vote.

On behalf of OCAPIA, I urge you to support HB 4133.

Sincerely,

Jackie Leung

Co-Chair, Oregon Commission on

Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

¹ Davies, Dave and Michael Walden. <u>The future of U.S. democracy hangs in the balance as states battle over voting rights.</u> NPR. February 17, 2022.

