

# House Bill 2492

Sponsored by Representative OWENS, Senator FINDLEY (Pre-session filed.)

## 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**.

Provides that any voter who has not voted or updated voter registration in four or more years will become inactive elector, with name removed from voting rolls if voter fails to vote or update registration within additional two years.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to voter registration; amending ORS 247.013, 247.555 and ORS 247.563; and repealing ORS  
3 247.275.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 247.013 is amended to read:

6 247.013. (1) A qualified person shall be considered registered to vote in a county when the  
7 person's first registration in the county occurs as described in ORS 247.012.

8 (2) An elector who changes residence address from the county in which the elector is registered  
9 to a different county within the state, in order to vote in an election, must be an elector registered  
10 in the county in which the new residence address of the elector is located.

11 (3) If there is a change in any information required for registration under this chapter, and the  
12 elector has not changed residence address to another county, the registration of the elector may be  
13 updated as provided in this chapter.

14 (4) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (3) of this section, if an elector changes residence ad-  
15 dress from the county in which the elector is registered to a different county within the state, the  
16 elector need not register again if the registration of the elector is updated.

17 (5) If the county clerk does not have evidence of a change in any information required for reg-  
18 istration under this chapter for an elector, the registration of the elector shall be considered active.

19 (6) The registration of an elector shall be considered inactive if:

20 (a) The county clerk has received evidence that there has been a change in the information re-  
21 quired for registration under this chapter **or the elector has neither voted nor updated the**  
22 **registration for a period of four or more years**; and

23 (b) The county clerk has mailed the notice described in ORS 247.563.

24 (7) **The registration of an elector shall not be moved to an inactive file during the 60-day**  
25 **period prior to any election because the elector has neither voted nor updated the registra-**  
26 **tion for a period of four or more years.**

27 [(7)] (8) The inactive registration of an elector must be updated before the elector may vote in  
28 an election.

29 **SECTION 2.** ORS 247.563 is amended to read:

30 247.563. (1) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section and ORS 247.555, whenever it  
31 appears to the county clerk that an elector needs to update the elector's registration or that the

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.  
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 elector has changed residence address to another county, the county clerk shall mail a notice to the  
 2 elector.

3 (2)(a) The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail and shall include a postage prepaid, pread-  
 4 dressed return card on which the elector may state the elector’s current residence and mailing ad-  
 5 dress. The notice shall advise the elector that:

6 [(a)] (A) The elector should return the card promptly;

7 [(b)] (B) If the card is not returned by the 21st calendar day immediately preceding an election,  
 8 the elector may be required to complete a new registration card in order to vote in an election; and

9 [(c)] (C) **Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection,** the elector’s registration  
 10 will be canceled if the elector neither votes nor updates the registration before two general  
 11 elections have been held.

12 **(b) If a notice is sent under this subsection because the elector has neither voted nor**  
 13 **updated the registration for a period of four or more years, the notice shall advise the elec-**  
 14 **tor that the elector’s registration will be canceled if the elector neither votes nor updates**  
 15 **the registration within two years of the notice being mailed.**

16 (3) When the county clerk mails a notice under this section, the registration of the elector shall  
 17 be considered inactive until the elector updates the registration, the registration is canceled or the  
 18 clerk determines that the registration should be considered active.

19 (4) This section does not apply when the county clerk receives written evidence from the elector  
 20 or another county clerk indicating a change of residence or mailing address or from the United  
 21 States Postal Service indicating a change of residence address and the registration of the elector is  
 22 automatically updated by the county clerk under any provision of this chapter.

23 **SECTION 3.** ORS 247.555 is amended to read:

24 247.555. (1) A county clerk may cancel the registration of an elector:

25 (a) At the request of the elector;

26 (b) Upon the death of the elector;

27 (c) If the county clerk receives written evidence that the elector has registered to vote in an-  
 28 other county in this state or in another state; [or]

29 (d) **Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this subsection,** if the elector has not responded  
 30 to a notice described in ORS 247.563 and has not voted or updated a registration during the period  
 31 beginning on the date the notice is sent and ending on the day after the date of the second regular  
 32 general election that occurs after the date the notice was sent[.]; **or**

33 **(e) If the elector has not responded to a notice described in ORS 247.563 that is mailed**  
 34 **because the elector has neither voted nor updated the registration for a period of four or**  
 35 **more years and the elector has not voted or updated the registration during the two-year**  
 36 **period beginning on the date the notice is sent.**

37 (2)(a) If the registration of an elector is canceled, the elector, in order to vote in an election,  
 38 must register as provided in this chapter.

39 **(b) If the registration of an elector is canceled in the manner described in subsection**  
 40 **(1)(e) of this section, the county clerk must send the elector a notice informing the elector**  
 41 **that the elector’s registration has been canceled and informing the elector of how to register**  
 42 **as an elector.**

43 **SECTION 4.** ORS 247.275 is repealed.