A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 27

Ordered by the Senate May 2
Including Senate Amendments dated May 2

Printed pursuant to Senate Interim Rule 213.28 by order of the President of the Senate in conformance with pre-session filing rules, indicating neither advocacy nor opposition on the part of the President (at the request of Senate Interim Committee on Rules and Executive Appointments)

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.

Requires Secretary of State to conduct study and analyze provisions of Oregon Constitution, Oregon Revised Statutes and Oregon Administrative Rules relating to voter access. Requires secretary to develop recommendations regarding most effective methods for improving voter access and increasing voter participation.

Requires secretary to submit report to interim legislative committees on rules by September 15, 2024.

[Sunssets January 2, 2025.]

Requires special election for Senate Joint Resolution 33 (2023) to be held throughout state on same date as next general election.
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT
Relating to elections; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) Pursuant to ORS 250.075 and notwithstanding ORS 250.035, if Senate Joint Resolution 33 (2023) is referred to the people by the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly in regular session, the ballot title for Senate Joint Resolution 33 (2023) shall be:

AMENDS CONSTITUTION: “EQUALITY OF RIGHTS ON ACCOUNT OF SEX” PROTECTS PREGNANCY AND GENDER IDENTITY AND RELATED HEALTH DECISIONS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION; REPEALS SAME-GENDER MARRIAGE BAN.

RESULT OF “YES” VOTE: “YES” vote amends constitutional provision prohibiting government actions discriminating “on account of sex” to include pregnancy and gender identity and related health decisions and sexual orientation; repeals same-gender marriage ban.

RESULT OF “NO” VOTE: “NO” vote retains current constitutional provision prohibiting government actions impairing equal rights “on account of sex” without expressly including pregnancy and gender identity and related health decisions and sexual orientation.

SUMMARY: In 2014, voters adopted Article I, section 46, of the Oregon Constitution, which provides: “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the State of
Oregon or by any political subdivision in this state on account of sex.” This measure identifies protected rights “on account of sex” to include:

- Pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes and related health decisions;
- Gender identity and related health decisions;
- Sexual orientation; and
- Gender.

The measure repeals the current constitutional provision prohibiting same-gender marriage. Additional major effects of this measure include prohibiting state or local government actions:

- Denying or abridging access to abortion, contraception, gender-affirming health care and same-gender marriage; and
- That discriminate, in intent or effect, based on pregnancy, gender identity and related health decisions, miscarriage and other pregnancy outcomes, sexual orientation and gender.

(2) The word limits described in ORS 250.035 (2) do not apply to the ballot title contained in this section.

SECTION 2. A special election shall be held throughout this state on the same date as the next general election. The measure that is referred to in section 1 of this 2023 Act and that is otherwise referred to the people by the Legislative Assembly shall be submitted to the electors for their approval or rejection at the special election described in this section.

SECTION 3. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on its passage.

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