



HB 2107 Will Promote Voter Roll Accuracy, Register More Eligible Voters

Dear Chair Lieber, Vice Chair Knopp, and esteemed members of the Senate Committee on Rules,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of House Bill 2107, which would establish the Oregon Health Authority as an automatic voter registration (AVR) agency and facilitate voter registration of eligible enrollees in the Oregon Health Plan.

My name is Peter Skopec, and I am Director of Advocacy for Secure Democracy USA, a national, nonpartisan nonprofit that works with officials on both sides of the aisle to build confidence in our elections and improve voter access across the United States. We collaborate with state leaders, election administrators, policy experts, and allies to ensure that all eligible citizens have the freedom to vote how they choose.

We respectfully urge you to support HB 2107. This bill would promote election security by ensuring the accuracy of Oregon's voter registration list, while further strengthening the state's reputation as a national leader in protecting and expanding the freedom to vote.

Accurate voter registration lists are critically important to election security – and AVR is one of the best ways to ensure that these lists are kept up to date. A growing number of states understand this: today, 22 states and the District of Columbia allow (or will soon allow) voters to register or update their voter registration during routine state agency transactions, most commonly with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Meanwhile, three states, including Washington, as well as the District of Columbia, expanded AVR to more agencies in 2022 and 2023, like HB 2107 would do.

Making the Oregon Health Authority an AVR agency is a commonsense proposal that will allow more Oregonians to exercise their freedom to vote. HB 2107 would build on the success of Oregon's "motor voter" law, which has helped tens of thousands of Oregonians register to vote or update their voter registration when interacting with the DMV since 2016. The Oregon Secretary of State estimates that more than 170,000 Oregonians who are enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan are eligible but currently unregistered to vote. HB 2107 would therefore provide these eligible voters – some of whom may not interact with the DMV, or do not have easy access to online voter registration – with another convenient way to register or update their registration.

We applaud Oregon for being a national leader in protecting and expanding access to the polls, including through the state's popular and effective motor voter system, by mailing return-postage-paid ballots to all registered voters, and offering pre-registration for 16- and

17-year-olds. Your support for HB 2107 would further demonstrate Oregon's commitment to guaranteeing secure, accessible elections for all Oregonians.

We thank the Secretary of State's office for proposing HB 2107, and the esteemed members of the Senate Rules Committee for the opportunity to provide written testimony.

We respectfully urge you to support this important proposal.

Sincerely,

Peter Skopec
Director of Advocacy
Secure Democracy USA

Secure Democracy USA is a 501(c)(4) nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that works to build confidence in our elections and improve voter access across the United States. We educate policymakers and the public about what it takes to safeguard our voting systems. We use survey and messaging research to inform our strategy and we collaborate with state leaders, election administrators, policy experts, and allies to ensure that all eligible citizens have the freedom to vote how they choose.