

Submitter: Donald Powers  
On Behalf Of: The citizens of Oregon  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HB2585

Accurate voter rolls are essential to election integrity.

Election integrity, free and fair elections is a wholly American value, it is the foundation of a civil government that has power only by ideals when Americans of all political persuasions are confident they can vote freely and without undue hardship for the candidates of their choosing. An election "won" by undermining democratic processes is a loss for us all.

Eligibility to vote in Oregon is completely unverified. The system is wide open to fraud.

A foreign government, an out-of-state person or group or an in-state person or group could use the SOS online system or paper forms to register hundreds, or thousands, or tens of thousands of phony or ineligible voters. Nobody verifies identity, citizenship, age or whether the address is really someone's residence. And because voters can have a separate mailing address, ballots can be sent anywhere, even overseas.

Every inaccuracy on the voter roll presents an opportunity for fraud and abuse. This presents an even bigger problem in Oregon that has automatic vote by mail. In Oregon, deceased and duplicate registrants will receive ballots. No one wants anyone voting from beyond the grave or more than once. There's no validation and there's no known enforcement. It's all "on the honor system... the severity of the penalty is deterrent enough." as one time SOS Kate Brown said in a letter which I possess.

2022 marks the second year that The Heritage Foundation has tracked and scored the laws and regulations of every state and the District of Columbia that bear on the conduct and integrity of elections. The Election Integrity Scorecard scores the security and reliability of elections on a 100-point scale based on 47 best practices criteria that cover everything from the handling of absentee ballots to the maintenance of clean, accurate voter registration rolls.

Oregon scored 48th! 48th!

"Our election was hijacked. There is no question. Congress has a duty to #ProtectOurDemocracy & #FollowTheFacts," Speaker Pelosi tweeted.

I hope recent experience impresses upon our representatives the necessity of passing additional legislation.

Sincerely,  
Don Powers

Sherwood, OR