

Oregon Association of County Clerks

oacclerks.org

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Written Testimony before the House Rules Committee regarding House Bill 3073

Dear Chair Fahey, Vice-Chairs Breese-Iverson and Kropf, and Representatives Nosse, Scharf, Valderrama, and Wallan,

The Oregon Association of County Clerks (OACC) asks for a careful and thoughtful approach to any legislation that excludes anything from the public record, especially in cases where Oregon law already addresses that issue. In particular, OACC would like to note the following things:

- ORS 247.965 already allows any elector to request the county clerk to keep the residence address of the elector exempt from disclosure.
- This bill refers to a candidate. The county clerk and secretary of state are not the only filing officers for candidacy.
- This bill would require manual intervention for redacting candidate information off of filing forms. The county clerks (especially those who do not provide a county voters' pamphlet) and other filing officers, currently, post candidate filing forms on-line for voters to get information on the candidates. During a special district election this could easily be over 200 candidate filing forms.
- This bill may cause confusion to the exemption process and give a false sense of security to candidates and elected officials.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 3073. As always, the County Clerks stand ready to assist as needed.