

Oregon Association of County Clerks

oacclerks.org

Contact: Rob Bovett

OACC Legal Counsel oaccrob@gmail.com 541-270-7414

February 21, 2023

Written Testimony before the House Rules Committee regarding House Bill 3206

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 involves voting by persons under the age of 18.

Specifically, ORS 247.016(3) requires confidentiality of any information related to minors. As a result, this bill:

- Would create substantial programming costs.
- Clerks would need to generate more ballot styles, as these voters would not be voting a complete ballot. This may cause confusion, as the voter will only be allowed to vote in one election.
- This would create a transparency issue voting history and ballots cast reports would exclude minor voters, as they are exempt from public disclosure.
- Observers would not be allowed to view the process of signatures being verified with relation to minors.

In addition, this bill does not provide enough time for implementation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 3206. As always, the County Clerks stand ready to assist as needed.