

Submitter: Martin Medeiros

On Behalf Of: Solicitation via email from Director Miller

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On General Government

Measure: HB5035

Honorable Legislature,

I've been involved directly and indirectly with over 100 filings with the secretary of state. I was sent an email asking my opinion stating that money is needed to:

1. "Allow you to access the information you need from anywhere using a cellphone or laptop at your convenience. "

OBSERVATION: This is already possible and I do this almost every day.

2. "Faster response times through online, on-demand access to the services we provide."

OBSERVATION: Response times are more than adequate and any incremental increase cannot be fixed by money. Are there delays sometimes? Sure. As a practicing lawyer of about 30 years, it may be true that Oregon government personnel sometimes take longer than expected as sometimes the people I need to talk to are often on leave, in training, or taking PTO. However, when I get a hold of the public employees on the phone, they are very helpful, fast, and highly competent professionals. This is the expectation I give my clients and is baked into the system and I don't think it needs to be fixed. It works fine most of the time. Regardless, money will not fix this.

3. "Imagine doing business in the language you're comfortable with."

OBSERVATION: This function is already there, Google Translate / Microsoft / Apple provide this function at no cost. This is the go-to solution for my ESL clients. Oregon does not have to reinvent the wheel.

The secretary of state technology is more than adequate for the job - stability is the goal, not the newest technology. I am not confident that Oregon can manage an IT project and preserve function and cost with AI coming online. The technology contemplated is shooting at a target that already moved. This will disrupt things, increase the learning curve for users and most likely go over budget.

Please do not support this expenditure. It seems very ambiguous and unneeded. We need stability in Oregon right now.

If it is not broken, do not fix it.

All the best,
Martin Medeiros