

Submitter: Tom Leedham
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3593

Oregon Legislators

Throughout the fight for voters rights Oregon has been a leader in expanding access to the vote. HB 3593 presents a unique opportunity to strengthen our democracy by giving independent and minor party voters a more meaningful voice in elections.

Currently minor parties are able to cross nominate major party candidates but there is no way to identify how many votes were cast by minor party members. The simple modification proposed by HB 3593 would allow voters to more specifically express their values and views. For those elected it provides much more information about the opinions of the voter.

Full fusion as proposed by HB 3593 lets parties maintain their own identities and ballot lines even when they cross nominate a candidate from another party. Because the ballots are tallied together smaller parties can play a meaningful roll rather than that of a spoiler. Additionally minor party voters never feel like their vote was wasted.

I urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to strengthen our democracy and support HB 3593.

Thank You,
Tom Leedham
Teamsters Local 206