LC 0060-EXPLAN (HB 2004, 2023) 1/26/24-1 (DJ/wjc/ps)

## THIS EXPLANATION HAS NOT BEEN REVIEWED OR APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL COMMITTEE.

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## GIVES VOTERS OPTION TO RANK CANDIDATES IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE; CANDIDATE RECEIVING MAJORITY OF VOTES WINS

Referred to the Electorate of Oregon by the Legislative Assembly to be voted on at the General Election, November 5, 2024.

1 **Explanation** 2 By the Joint Committee on Ballot Measure Titles and Explanatory Statements pursuant to 3 section 1, chapter 366, Oregon Laws 2023. 4 5 Ballot Measure changes Oregon law to give voters the option to rank 6 candidates in order of preference using "ranked choice voting" for specified federal and 7 statewide offices. Under current law, voters select only one candidate for most offices, and 8 the candidate with the most votes wins, even if the candidate does not receive a majority of 9 all the votes cast. With ranked choice voting, voters may rank candidates for office in order 10 of preference. Voters may choose to rank multiple candidates or only one candidate for 11 each office, as well as write-in candidate(s). Votes are counted in rounds. In the first round,

Ballot Measure No. \_\_\_\_ (LC 0060-EXPLAN) 1/26/24-1 Leg. Counsel 1 if a candidate receives a majority of highest-ranked votes, the candidate wins. If no 2 candidate receives a majority of highest-ranked votes in the first round, votes are 3 automatically counted in additional rounds. The candidate receiving the fewest votes in 4 each round is defeated and the defeated candidate's votes are assigned to the voter's next 5 highest-ranked candidate. This process continues until a candidate receives a majority of 6 votes. 7 Ballot Measure requires the Secretary of State to establish a program to 8 educate voters about how ranked choice voting elections will be conducted. The program 9 must be made available in English and the other five most commonly spoken languages in 10 this state. Ballot Measure applies to the nomination by major political parties for 11 12 candidates for President, United States Senator, Representative in Congress, Governor, 13 Secretary of State, State Treasurer and Attorney General. The measure applies to the 14 election of President and Vice-President, United States Senator, Representative in 15 Congress, Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General and the 16 Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries. The measure eliminates the primary 17 for the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries. 18 Ballot Measure allows local governments to adopt ranked choice voting for 19 elections for local offices and for primaries for partisan local offices. The measure requires 20 the Secretary of State, in consultation with county clerks and elections officers, to enact 21 rules and provide general guidance to local governments regarding the implementation of 22 ranked choice voting. The measure allows home rule jurisdictions that already adopted 23 ranked choice voting prior to 2025 to continue to use their current method, or to revise it. 24 Ballot Measure requires the Secretary of State and county clerks to analyze 25 state election laws to determine whether those laws are inconsistent with implementing

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1	ranked choice voting, and to provide publicly available reports discussing that analysis and
2	the anticipated expenditures necessary to implement the measure.
3	Ballot Measure applies to nominations and elections on or after January 1,
4	2028.
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