

Submitter: Lenn Ball  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: SB1576

Senate Judiciary Committee  
Oregon State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Salem, Oregon

Chair Floyd Prozanski  
Vice-chair Kim Thatcher  
Member Senators Sara Gelser Blouin, Dennis Linthicum and James Manning

February 12, 2024

I am a retired General Contractor. I've completed construction projects in 8 states. Now my job at hand is to ensure the right of voter participation in all major structural changes in my local government. The change I am talking about is the Gilliam County Court restructure that also includes Grant, Harney, Malheur, Sherman, and Wheeler Counties. Bill 1576 with amendment -4 will take from the people one of the most important rights our Country was founded on, our voice via the ballot box. I would ask my State Representatives and Senators to join me in protecting that most sacred right, the right to vote. Do not leave that precious right in the hands of three elected officials. If this amendment survives Committee please make sure the following language is added to amendment -4 on bill 1576

Section 1, the -4 amendment creating a subsection (3)).

· (3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the county court of Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Sherman or Wheeler County may approve a transfer, upon an approved referral of the voters, of the probate jurisdiction, authority, powers, functions and duties of the county court to the circuit courts and the judges thereof, and set an effective date of the transfer.

Thank you for your consideration of my request,  
Lenn Ball, Arlington OR Resident