



Portland City Auditor

Elections



February 14, 2024

Senate Committee on Rules
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Lieber, Vice Chair Knopp, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the City of Portland, I am writing to express our support for Senate Bill 1533. The City of Portland consistently strives to improve language access by offering live interpretation as needed, making our materials available in nearly a dozen languages, and offering a pay differential to City employees who speak multiple languages. We strongly support the State's efforts to increase access to Voter Pamphlet Statements by increasing the number of languages available from five to ten in each County and ensuring the translations are publicly available.

With dozens of languages spoken throughout Oregon, SB 1533 will help increase voter participation by using a formula to determine which ten languages are most commonly used in each county. With these critical steps taken to make voting more accessible to many non-English speaking communities, Oregon can prioritize a stronger sense of democracy in future elections. For these reasons and more, we encourage you to vote yes on SB 1533.

Thank you,

Deborah Scroggin

Deborah Scroggin
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