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February 20, 2024

Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Knopp, and members of the Senate Committee on Rules:

Thank you for having me today. For the record I am Marcie Richey Linn County Clerk, I offer my support for SCR 211. I am blessed to have an opportunity to offer testimony about my predecessor and mentor, Linn County Clerk Steve Druckenmiller. This resolution is a beautiful representation of how near and dear elections, the voters, and vote-by mail were to him.

Steve was always a maverick, well respected, and admired within the elections profession. He would not hesitate to offer his perspective, guidance or vast amount of knowledge to new or seasoned county clerks. He had the rare ability to foresee future directions of legislation and could plan accordingly and offer his insight to his fellow colleagues. Steve witnessed many changes over his 37 plus years as County Clerk and acquired an immeasurable amount of institutional knowledge. He worked hand in hand with the OACC and the Secretary of State's Office in developing policies that would make vote-by-mail more secure and robust. He became the go to elections administrator and historian by not only his peers within the profession but also many of his colleagues that worked at the Secretary of State's Office over the years. Because of his undying support for vote-by-mail and his countless hours spent behind the scenes Vote-by-mail has evolved to what it is today in Oregon. He leaves a legacy of accurate, fair and honest elections.

If he was here, I am sure that he would be humbled. It wasn't about him, it was about his voters in Linn County, it was about upholding a fair and accurate process, it was about following the law, and it was about vote-by-mail. He is dearly missed by all.

Thank you for your time.