

Minority Report
A-Engrossed
House Bill 3908

Ordered by the House June 4
Including House Minority Report Amendments dated June 4

Sponsored by nonconcurring members of the House Committee on Rules: Representatives BOSHART DAVIS,
DRAZAN

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act increases the percentage of voters in the state required for a party to be a major party. The Act says that a group of electors may pick a person for an office that has been picked by another party if the group meets the party requirements of a major party. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.0).

[Digest: The Act increases the percentage of voters in the state required for a party to be a major party. (Flesch Readability Score: 62.8).]

Increases the party registration requirement to be a major political party in this state from five percent to 10 percent. **Requires that an affiliation of electors who nominates a candidate who has been nominated by another party must meet and maintain the party registration requirements of a major political party.**

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to party membership registration requirements; amending ORS 248.006 and 254.135; and
3 declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 248.006 is amended to read:

6 248.006. (1) An affiliation of electors becomes a major political party in this state and is qualified
7 to make nominations at a primary election when a number of electors equal to at least *[five]* **10**
8 percent of the number of electors registered in this state are registered as members of the party not
9 later than the 275th day before the date of a primary election. An affiliation of electors satisfying
10 the requirements of this subsection shall be subject to the provisions of ORS 248.007 on the date the
11 Secretary of State determines the registration requirements are satisfied.

12 (2) The number of electors described in subsection (1) of this section shall be calculated based
13 on the number of electors registered in this state and eligible to vote, as reported on the official
14 abstracts of the election, at the general election immediately preceding the deadline specified in
15 subsection (1) of this section.

16 (3) After an affiliation of electors becomes a major political party under subsection (1) of this
17 section, in order to maintain status as a major political party subject to ORS 248.007, the party must
18 satisfy the registration requirement of subsection (1) of this section not later than the 275th day
19 before each primary election.

20 (4) An affiliation of electors ceases to be a major political party if the registration requirements
21 of subsection (1) of this section are not satisfied by the 275th day before each primary election. The

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 affiliation of electors ceases to be a major political party on the date the Secretary of State deter-
2 mines that the registration requirement is not satisfied.

3 (5) When an affiliation of electors has not satisfied the registration requirement of subsection
4 (1) of this section for the first time, at the request of a representative of the affiliation of electors,
5 the Secretary of State shall determine not less than once each month whether at least *[five]* **10**
6 percent of the number of eligible electors registered in this state are registered as members of the
7 party. After an affiliation of electors has qualified as a major political party, the Secretary of State
8 shall determine on the 271st day before each primary election whether the major political party has
9 satisfied the registration requirements described in subsection (3) of this section.

10 **(6) An affiliation of electors may nominate for an office a candidate who has been nomi-**
11 **ated for the same office by another political party only if the affiliation of electors meets**
12 **and maintains the major political party membership registration requirements under this**
13 **section.**

14 **SECTION 2.** ORS 254.135 is amended to read:

15 254.135. (1) The official general or special election ballot shall be styled "Official Ballot" and
16 shall state:

17 (a) The name of the county for which it is intended.

18 (b) The date of the election.

19 (c) The names of all candidates for offices to be filled at the election whose nominations have
20 been made and accepted and who have not died, withdrawn or become disqualified. The ballot may
21 not contain the name of any other person.

22 (d) The number, ballot title and financial estimates under ORS 250.125 of any measure to be
23 voted on at the election.

24 (2) The names of candidates for President and Vice President of the United States shall be
25 printed in groups together, with their political party designations. The names of the electors may
26 not be printed on the general election ballot. A vote for the candidates for President and Vice
27 President is a vote for the group of presidential electors supporting those candidates and selected
28 as provided by law. The general election ballot shall state that electors of President and Vice
29 President are being elected and that a vote for the candidates for President and Vice President shall
30 be a vote for the electors supporting those candidates.

31 (3)(a) The name of each candidate nominated shall be printed on the ballot in but one place,
32 without regard to how many times the candidate may have been nominated, except in circumstances
33 where a candidate may hold more than one office or nomination without violating ORS 249.013. The
34 name of a political party, or names of political parties, shall be printed with the name of a candidate
35 for other than nonpartisan office according to the following rules:

36 (A) For a candidate not affiliated with a political party who is nominated by a minor political
37 party, the name of the minor political party shall be printed with the name of the candidate;

38 *[(B) For a candidate not affiliated with a political party who is nominated by more than one minor*
39 *political party, the names of not more than three minor political parties selected by the candidate shall*
40 *be printed with the name of the candidate;]*

41 *[(C)]* **(B)** For a candidate who is a member of a political party who is nominated by a political
42 party of which the candidate is not a member, the name of the political party that nominated the
43 candidate shall be printed with the name of the candidate;

44 *[(D)]* **(C)** For a candidate who is a member of a political party who is nominated by more than
45 one **major** political party of which the candidate is not a member, the names of not more than three

1 **major** political parties selected by the candidate shall be printed with the name of the candidate;

2 [(E)] (D) For a candidate who is nominated only by a political party of which the candidate is
3 a member, the name of the political party of which the candidate is a member shall be printed with
4 the name of the candidate; and

5 [(F)] (E) For a candidate who is nominated by a **major** political party of which the candidate
6 is a member and by any **other major** political party or parties of which the candidate is not a
7 member, the name of the **major** political party of which the candidate is a member and the names
8 of not more than two other **major** political parties selected by the candidate shall be printed with
9 the name of the candidate.

10 (b) If a candidate is required to select the name of a political party to be printed on the ballot
11 under paragraph (a) of this subsection, the candidate shall notify the filing officer of the selection
12 not later than the 61st day before the day of the election.

13 (c) The word “incumbent” shall be printed with the name of each candidate for the Supreme
14 Court, Court of Appeals, Oregon Tax Court or circuit court who is designated the incumbent by the
15 Secretary of State under ORS 254.085.

16 (d) The word “nonaffiliated” shall be printed with the name of each candidate who is not affil-
17 iated with a political party and who is nominated by an assembly of electors or individual electors.

18 (e) If two or more candidates for the same office have the same or similar surnames, the location
19 of their places of residence shall be printed with their names to distinguish one from another.

20 (4) Notwithstanding subsection (3)(a) of this section, the name of a candidate nominated for more
21 than one district office that is to be filled at the same election shall be separately printed upon the
22 ballot for each district office for which the candidate is nominated.

23 **SECTION 3. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
24 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect**
25 **July 1, 2025.**

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