Submitter:	Mimi Maduro
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3166

As an Oregonian who has been active in getting out the vote (GOTV) for Democratic Party for the past thirty years--in Portland, in The Dalles and in Tillamook--this bill is a long time coming, and very important from my perspective. I support HB3166. We want more people to be involved in electoral politics and we want more people to vote, yet our primaries are not open. Younger people and many people fed up with either or both major political parties are Independents or non-affiliated votes. Depending on who's counting this is 37% to 42% of registered voters. That's thousands and thousands of Oregonians who don't get to vote in primaries. It's time for the Democrats and the Republicans to open up the primaries to all registered Oregon voters. The world is changing. Political partisanship is extreme, toxic and numbing. Our democracy is running on fumes. We need to let more people in on the electoral process. We say we want more participation yet, this archaic system is still in place. Let's move beyond contradiction and change the primary election process. Thank you.