Submitter:	Brian Whitacre
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3166

My name is Brian Whitacre, and I live in Multnomah County. I oppose HB 3166 because it hurts Republicans like me in a county that's already heavily Democratic. I want candidates who stand for Republican values—small government, gun rights, and similar priorities—not ones who have to appeal to far-left voters to win.

The open primary puts all candidates on one ballot, with the top five advancing. That's a problem here. Multnomah has 560,000 voters—45% Democrats, only 15% Republicans, according to the Secretary of State. That's 250,000 Democrats outvoting my 85,000 Republican neighbors. In 2022, Christine Drazan got 43.5% statewide but less than 20% here. This bill lets Portland control the top five, leaving us without strong Republican choices.

Ranked-choice voting doesn't fix it. In 2020, Biden won 79% here (440,000 votes) to Trump's 17% (95,000). Democrats won't rank a Republican second—they'll stick with their own. Even if one advances, they can't win against that majority.

Voters rejected ranked-choice last year. Your Democratic supermajority—35-25 in the House—shouldn't ignore that. Living in the Portland area, I'm surrounded by liberals, and this bill weakens my vote even more. Republicans shouldn't have to change who we are to compete. Please reject this bill.

Thank you,
Brian Whitacre
Multnomah County, Oregon