Submitter:	Richard Fobes
On Behalf Of:	the VoteFair guy
Committee:	House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3166

From: Richard Fobes, author of "Ending The Hidden Unfairness In U.S. Elections", and "the VoteFair guy"

I strongly oppose HB 3166 which would adopt a "unified" primary election ballot. I just learned about this foolish bill too late to sign up to testify verbally. In haste, here I'm providing important points to consider.

* "Republican" voters and "Democratic" voters are also unhappy with our current election system! This bill does not solve this bigger problem.

* Clarification: Oregon voters are unhappy with local elections and gubernatorial elections, and very unhappy with federal elections in other states, but IMO most Oregonians are happy with our elected Oregon state legislators! :)

* The wise solution is to adopt ranked choice voting for general elections. This bill does not appear to include this important provision.

* The wise solution is for the Republican candidate who gets the second-most primary votes, and the Democratic candidate who gets the second-most primary votes, to also appear on the general-election ballot. When there is a third party with a meaningful number of voters registered in that party, that party also would nominate a second candidate. As now, qualified independent candidates must be included on the general-election ballot.

* The biggest campaign contributors use money to control who wins the most votes in each primary. Adding the second nominee defeats the "blocking tactic" they use to block the candidates we, the majority of voters in both parties, would prefer. (The blocking tactic involves vote splitting and cross-party funding for a weak candidate.)

* The recent Measure 117 was wisely designed by election-method experts. It was defeated because voters are waiting to see how ranked choice voting works in Portland.

* I will strongly support a refined version of Measure 117 that includes two nominees from each party.

* Unregistered voters already can periodically switch party registration between the Republican and Democratic parties because of not liking either party. Speaking

personally, that's what I do.

Please reject HB 3166 which was "designed" without the participation of election-method experts. In particular, the League of Women Voters of Oregon should have been involved!