

HJR 11 & SJR 30: Strengthening Oregon's Initiative System

Oregon's Initiative System

- Current thresholds to place an initiative on the ballot are based on the total number of votes for governor in the most recent gubernatorial election: 6% for a statutory change (approx. 117,000 signatures) and 8% for a constitutional change (approx. 156,000 signatures).
- Oregon voters approved the initiative & referendum process in 1902 and the laws have been largely unchanged since 1968. Since then our population has doubled from 2 million to 4.2 million. It's time to reflect the population increase in the requirements of our initiative process.

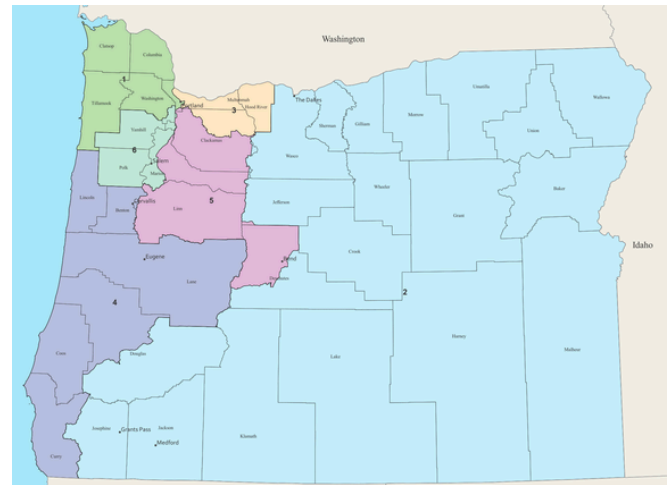
Strengthening the System

- **Increases thresholds needed to gain the ballot:** 8% for statutory and 10% for constitutional, or approximately 156,000 and 195,000 signatures, respectively.
- **Adds a geographic distribution requirement** for gathering signatures based on congressional districts. This brings Oregon in line with 16 other states that use similar requirements for signatures including Colorado, Ohio, and Massachusetts.

Protecting the System

- Moderate increases to the total number of signatures needed to gain the ballot.
- Addition of geographic distribution by congressional district for the signature gathering.
- Maintains the goals of allowing citizens the power to effect change through the initiative process while strengthening the system with simple and inclusive criterion.

It's About Balance: Basing geographic requirements on congressional districts increases the level of regional participation during signature gathering while maintaining proportionate population metrics and keeping the process attainable for Oregonians.



Supporters of HJR 11 & SJR 30

Oregon Hunters Association

Oregon Cattlemen's Association

Oregon Farm Bureau

Oregonians for Food & Shelter

Oregon Dairy Farmers Association

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Oregon Wheat Growers League

Oregon Wild Sheep Foundation

Associated Oregon Loggers