

The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

April 7, 2025

To: **Chair** [Senator Jama Kayse](#), **Vice Chair** [Senator Daniel Bonham](#), and
Members of the [Senate Committee On Rules](#)

Re: [SB 1054](#) – Video feed at ballot boxes and election counting rooms – **Comment**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) is submitting testimony on SB 1054 with a neutral comment, weighing transparency and costs. LWVOR adopted an Elections Security position in 2021, which states the following:

“The election process is the foundation of our representative form of government. Election integrity, accuracy, transparency, and trustworthiness require vigilance to ensure security protections. Security requirements include and are not limited to:

- *verifiable ballots;*
- *ballots that can be recounted and audited;*
- *up-to-date hardware and software, supported by vendors, tested, and secure;*
- *protected voter registration databases;*
- *election staff/volunteers with cybersecurity expertise;*
- *cyber-damage contingency plans;*
- *risk-limiting audits;*
- *attention to disinformation and misleading ads.”*

Our organization strongly believes that Oregon Vote-By-Mail elections are well organized, efficient and secure. We would be pleased to see enhanced confidence in our elections from all voters.

Currently, upon written authorization filed with the county clerk, the clerk shall permit authorized persons to watch the receiving and counting of votes. A clerk can limit this participation by allowing observers to watch as long as there is no interference with their orderly office procedure. This measure would expand the possible number of observers and address any complaints of vision impairment by observers.

It is clear that video at the ballot drop boxes and *particularly* in the ballot tallying rooms can be useful and is an excellent goal. Some Oregon counties have this process in place already. Our concern is the cost to the smaller counties which may not currently have either of these methods established, and may be greatly encumbered by the budget requirements this bill would demand.

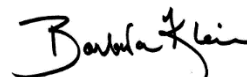
Due to the cost burden to smaller counties, which would not be supplemented by the state, we are neutral on SB 1054. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation



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