

May 6, 2025

**Position on Bills at 2025
Session of Oregon Legislature:
SB 44: Support**



The Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) is a coalition of over 50 local Indivisible groups throughout Oregon that cooperate and amplify their joint efforts to advance important federal and state legislation and engage with elected officials to promote causes for the benefit of all Oregonians.

COIN supports SB 44, with the -4 amendment, which would change statutes pertaining to vote recounts and the tallying of write-in votes in elections conducted by means of ranked choice voting. Current law on these subjects does not work for ranked choice voting. Nor does current law on auditing votes cast with ranked choice voting, although this bill does not address auditing.

This bill does not require any jurisdiction in Oregon to use ranked choice voting. But several jurisdictions already do.

- **Benton County** first implemented it in the November 2020 general election for county commissioner races with three or more candidates.
- **City of Corvallis (within Benton County):** The City began using it in 2022 for races with three or more candidates.
- **Multnomah County:** It will be implemented starting in November 2026 for county-level elections, including County Chair, County Commissioners, Auditor, and Sheriff.
- **City of Portland (located within Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties)** began using it in November 2024 for the election of Mayor, Auditor, and 12 City Councilors.

Election procedures in those jurisdictions are governed by state law, which should be updated to work with ranked choice voting.

The Legislature might as well also update the law to work with STAR Voting, another alternative voting method that does not rank candidates and thus is not “ranked choice voting.” More information about STAR Voting is available at <https://www.starvoting.org>.

Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN)

Daniel Meek
authorized testifier
dan@meek.net 503-293-9021