

Submitter: TOM MESSENGER
On Behalf Of: All Oregonians
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HJR201
Legislators,

This bill when taken to its logical conclusion is an attempt to create not an Open Primary but an EMPTY Primary since ALL the parties can leave the primary at any time.

Why? Because the political parties don't like a real fully Open Primary.

The political parties in Washington and California don't like the true real fully Open Primary. However, the voters, having been asked multiple times, overwhelmingly support the real fully Open Primary.

If the political party doesn't like this law, it can walk away from the Primary completely. Which, BTW, will INCREASE the number of candidates on the ballot in the General Election not decrease them which is the primary reason for the Primary election.

Also, the logistics of potential changes (political party participate/don't participate) every election cycle by every political party will make the election more complex for the election staffs and the voters.

When you register to vote, you are saying you want to vote.

When you register to vote, you are NOT saying I am joining this political party. It is commonly done just so the voter can vote for some candidates in a subset of all the candidates.

Joining a political party is fine. But that is NOT the State of Oregon's job to keep track of or to support. That should be and realistically ought to be totally done by each party.

NO other state has done this type of election style.

Please vote NO on HJR201!!

I encourage the Legislature for any change to the election process to make the change statutory for a period of time before asking the voters to codify it into the Constitution.

Thanks for listening!

All the best and KOKO!

Tom Messenger