

NONPARTISAN
**EASY
VOTERS'
GUIDE**

**OREGON GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 4, 2008**



DISABILITY RIGHTS OREGON



hava

Help America Vote Act

*The League of Women Voters®
of Oregon Education Fund*

Last day to register to
vote is October 14th.

This Guide provides information
about candidates for federal
and statewide offices and about
statewide ballot measures.



VOTE

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Who can register to vote in Oregon?

If you answer yes to all of the questions below, then you can register to vote.

- Are you 17 or older? Will you be 18 on or before election day, November 4?
- Are you a citizen of the United States?
- Do you live in Oregon?

How do I register to vote?

For the November 4th 2008 General Election, you must register to vote by October 14th, 2008. You can get a voter registration card at any of these places:

- Any County Elections Office
- The Secretary of State's Office
- Some state agencies, like the Division of Motor Vehicles
- A voter registration drive
- Online at www.sos.state.or.us/elections/votreg/vreg.htm
- On the registration card you must fill in the boxes that say you are a U.S. citizen and at least 17 years old. You must write your full legal name, home address, date of birth, and signature.

New laws require you to give your Oregon driver's license or ID number, if you have one. If you do not have an Oregon driver's license or ID number, you must give the last four numbers of your Social Security number. If you do not have either of these and you are registering by mail, you must mail in a copy of one of the following:

- valid photo identification
- a paycheck stub
- a utility bill
- a bank statement
- a government document (like your Oregon Health Plan medical card)
- proof of eligibility under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizen Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) or the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act (VAEH)

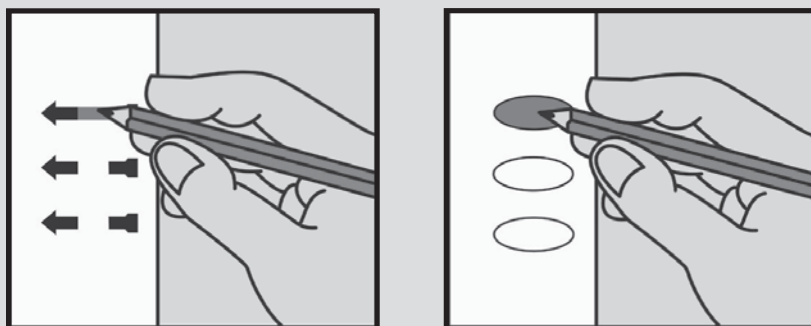
IMPORTANT: If you have moved, even if it is only across the street, you must register again.

How do I vote?

In Oregon, registered voters who are 18 by November 4th vote by mail.

1. You will get information about the election in the mail around October 17th. This will tell you what choices you will vote on.
2. You will get your ballot in the mail around October 21. You vote by marking your choices on the ballot.
3. Read all the instructions on the ballot. The instructions will say whether you should use a pen or a pencil.

In some counties, you will vote by filling in the oval next to your choice. In other counties, you will vote by filling in the arrow next to your choice. You can write in the name of a person if you do not like the choices for any job on the ballot. You must fill in the oval or complete the arrow next to the name you wrote.



4. Check your ballot. You do not have to vote on everything. Do not vote for more choices than allowed.
5. If you make a mistake or lose your ballot, you can call 1-866-ORE-VOTES (1-866-673-8683) to get another one or go to your county clerk's office.
6. You must mail your ballot back in the envelope that came with it. You must sign the envelope before mailing it. It must get to the county Elections Office by November 4th.

If you need help registering to vote or understanding your ballot, call 1-866-673-8683 or your county elections office.

Why should I vote?

You can help make important decisions about how our state and our country are run by choosing the candidates you like best. This year Oregon voters will select their U.S. President, U.S. Senator, U.S. Representative, the Oregon Secretary of State, Oregon Treasurer, Oregon Attorney General, Oregon Supreme Court Justice, Oregon Judge of the Court of Appeals, and Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries. Voters will also decide whether they want changes to be made in the way the state is run (ballot measures). For information about Presidential candidates, go to www.VOTE411.org

Your vote will count even if you do not vote on every position or ballot measure. Your vote is secret. Nobody will know how you voted.

IMPORTANT DATES

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| October 14 | Last day for new voters to register. |
| October 17-21 | Ballots mailed out to you. |
| November 4 | ELECTION DAY |

Party Platforms

We asked each political party for its beliefs and values (platforms).

Libertarian Party

The Libertarian Party promotes social tolerance and fiscal responsibility. Libertarians promote individual freedom, personal responsibility, civil liberties, and compassion in civic life.

Libertarians believe the proper roles of government are to protect people, protect property, and secure personal liberties as outlined in our governing documents.

The Oregon Republican Party

The Oregon Republican Party believes:

Our nation's strength lies in the inherent value of the individual;

Each person's dignity, ability, and responsibility must be honored;

In equal rights, equal justice, and equal opportunity for all;

A traditional view of individual liberty produces the most effective, responsive, and responsible government.

Independent Party

Independents stand for practical, new progressive politics. The original Progressives curbed corporate greed, fought political patronage; started food inspections, workplace safety laws, and the National Parks system. Join us in the Independent "radical middle." Fight special interests, reform taxes, restore economic security, build healthy communities. www.indparty.com Oregon

Working Families Party

Focus our government on making our jobs better, our families more secure and our communities more prosperous:

- Healthcare for all Oregonians without private profit;
- Debt-free higher education and technical training;
- Promote green family wage jobs;

- Create affordable housing;

- Curb predatory lending.

Oregon Working Families Party

- www.oregonwfp.org 503-841-7161

Constitution Party

Our motto: Life, Liberty, Limited Government. We intend to end abortion, eliminate Federal income tax and the IRS, restore government to Constitutional size, require a congressional Declaration of War before US troops are sent out, keep jobs in America and slave labor goods out, and return to the gold standard.

Democratic Party of Oregon

Democrats Believe:

Honest leadership puts people first.

Healthcare is a basic right.

We must regain respect in the world and end the Iraq War.

In strong public schools and living wage jobs.

Retirement security must be guaranteed.

American can't afford another 3rd Bush Term under John McCain. Vote Democrat!

Pacific Green Party

The Pacific Green Party stands for peace, ecology, social justice, and grassroots democracy. Our 2008-2010 priorities are ending the Iraq War, opposing liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities, establishing single-payer universal health care, and enacting instant runoff voting, which solves the "spoiler" problem.

Peace Party

1. End corporate domination.
2. Reduce defense budget. We spent more than the rest of the world put together.
3. Single-payer health care, eliminate insurance bureaucracies which exist to deny care, not provided it.
4. Tax, pollution, gambling, stock speculation; stop taxing work.
5. Prosecute corporate crime.

US PRESIDENT

For Presidential Candidate information
go to LWVUS Voters' Guide

vote411.org

US SENATOR

Represents people from all of Oregon in the U.S. Senate and helps make laws that affect the whole country;

Votes on the budget and taxes for the whole country.

There are two U.S. Senators from Oregon. You vote on one this year.

This job lasts 6 years, then the voters choose again.

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

GORDON SMITH

Republican Party



Town where I live:

Pendleton, OR

Job/Experience: President,
Smith Frozen Foods

Continue finding common ground for the common good by being a leader who brings Republicans and Democrats together.

Bring an end to the war in Iraq, swiftly, safely and with honor.

Cut taxes and create jobs. Develop green energy and fight for Oregon's natural resource economy.

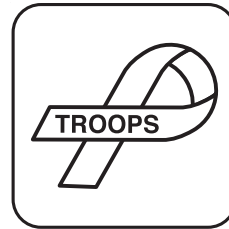
JEFF MERKLEY*Democratic Party*

Town where I live: East Multnomah County

Job/Experience: Speaker, Oregon House;
Executive Director, Portland Habitat for
Humanity; National Security Analyst,
Pentagon and Congress.



Create quality jobs by cutting taxes for the middle class and ending unfair trade deals.



End the war in Iraq and give veterans the respect they deserve with quality health care, job placement and tax cuts.



Create affordable, quality health care for every American and protect a woman's right to choose.

DAVID BROWNLOW*Constitution Party*

No response received by deadline

US REPRESENTATIVE

Represents people from their district in Oregon in Congress and helps make laws that affect the whole country;

Votes on the budget and taxes for the whole country.

There are five Oregon Representatives. You vote for the one from your district.

This job lasts 2 years, then the voters choose again.

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

US REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 1

JOEL HAUGEN

Independent Party



Get the U.S. on track to convert to clean energy sources by 2019



Establish national service as a widespread practice



Phase out the IRS and create a federal revenue system based on a consumption tax or transaction fee

Town where I live: Scappoose, Oregon

Job/Experience: Planner/Teacher/

Bonneville Power K-12 Contractor/USPS

Contractor/Small GIS Business Owner

*Please help us improve our voter services by completing a brief survey at
www.VoteSource.org*

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

CHRIS HENRY

Pacific Green Party

No photo submitted

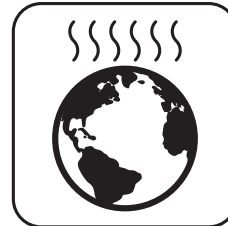
Town where I live: Portland, Oregon
 Job/Experience: I am a truck driver and I have fixed airplanes.



I will work to end the war, bring our troops home from other countries



I will defend the rights of all people.



I will help find new energy sources to help save our world

SCOTT SEMRAU

Constitution Party



Town where I live: Hillsboro, Oregon
 Job/Experience: Construction manager at local high tech facility.

Return to a fairly regulated market economy and sound money.

Reduce scope of global military empire and focus on building at home.

Reform government and return full Bill of Rights protections.

US REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 1

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

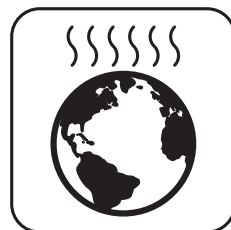
DAVID WU

Democratic Party

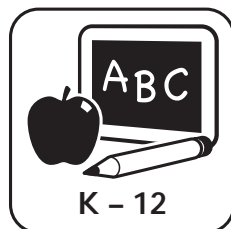


Town where I live: Hillsdale, Oregon

Job/Experience: Attorney helping high-technology businesses; Congressman working to improve education, health care and our environment



Reduce global warming and use less foreign oil in America



Improve our schools and reduce class size



Make health care more affordable and available

H. JOE TABOR

Libertarian Party



Town where I live: Portland, Oregon

Job/Experience: Presently: Electronics Consultant, sixteen years, serving science and industry. Prior: Three technology companies over eight years.

Limit the Money: Stop funding the wars and foreign occupations -- bring our soldiers home immediately.

Limit Regulations: For example, reduce regulations that have caused medical care and medical insurance costs to rise to unreasonable amounts.

Represent: Listen to the people in my district.

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

RICHARD HAKE

Constitution Party



Town where I live: Rogue River, Oregon
 Job/Experience: Law Enforcement and Security, Petroleum Geological Tech, Bindery Machine Operator



Stop Free Trade. Keep our jobs here. Rebuild our manufacturing base.



Secure our borders. Enforce immigration laws



Withdraw our troops to within our borders or international waters except for Marines guarding Embassies. No more war without a formal Congressional Declaration of War. We need to follow the Constitutional mandates.

TRISTIN MOCK

Pacific Green Party



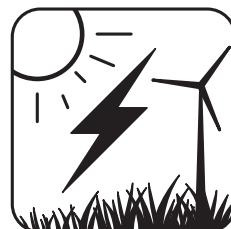
Town where I live: La Grande
 Job/Experience: Naturopathic Physician



Bring our troops home so we can spend money in the US not Iraq



Free health care for everyone



Clean energy and safe jobs

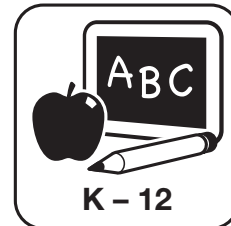
US REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 2

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

GREG WALDEN*Republican Party*

Town where I live: Hood River

Job/Experience: Member of Congress;
small business owner; parent

Tap America's great energy sources, reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

Help create family wage jobs in rural communities by putting people to work making our forests healthy again and developing renewable energy.

Restore funding for our roads and schools.

NOAH LEMAS*Democratic Party**No response received by deadline***ON THE WEB**

The information in this VOTERS' GUIDE and more is available on-line at

League of Women Voters of Oregon
www.VoteSource.org

For Presidential Candidate information
go to LWVUS Voters' Guide
vote411.org

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

MICHAEL MEO*Pacific Green Party*

Town where I live: Portland, Oregon

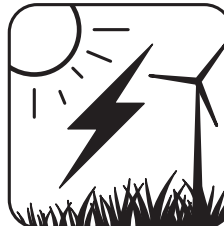
Job/Experience: I teach mathematics and physics in public high school. I refused the draft during Vietnam.



All people must get free health care.



Guns and bombs bring more war. Peace treaties and trade make war more difficult.

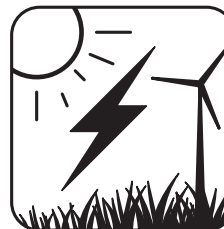


I am a Green. Save the land. Clean air and water. Jobs using sun power and wind power.

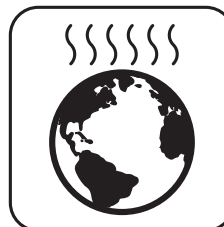
EARL BLUMENAUER*Democratic Party*

Town where I live: Portland, OR

Job/Experience: U.S. Congressman



Rebuild and renew America's aging and out of date transportation, energy, and water infrastructure.



Lead the fight against global warming and work towards a renewable energy policy.



Champion livable communities where families are healthy, safe, and economically secure.

US REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 3

Candidate Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

DELIA LOPEZ
Republican Party



Town where I live: Beautiful Oregon
Job/Experience: Nurse, Small Business Owner, Real Estate



Reinstate our Constitution



Create Family Wage Jobs



Improve Educational Opportunities for Americans.

US REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 4

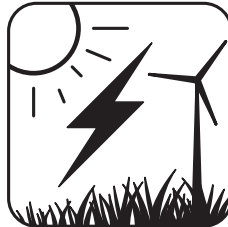
JAYNEE GERMOND
Constitution Party



Town where I live: Roseburg, Oregon
Job/Experience: Single parent for 10 years, Healthcare, Teaching, Business owner



Americans' needs before other people



Drill for oil, explore alternative energy



Bring back logging and other jobs for Oregon

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

MIKE BEILSTEIN*Pacific Green Party*

Town where I live: Corvallis

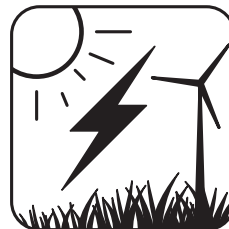
Job/Experience: Corvallis City Council
1999-2000, 2007-2008; Corvallis NAACP,
Secretary 1997-2008 Research Chemist, OSU,
1978-2007



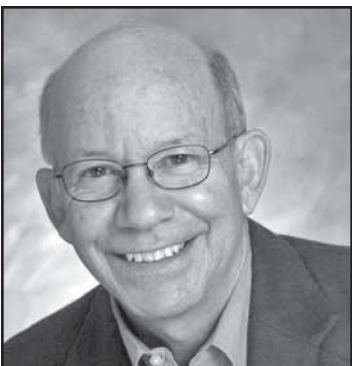
Get the USA military out of Iraq,
Afghanistan, Colombia and Cuba.



Universal single-payer health
insurance – Medicare for All.



Invest in sustainable energy/
conservation.
Peace, health care for all,
sustainable energy

PETER DEFAZIO*Democratic Party*

Town where I live: Springfield, OR

Job/Experience: Member of Congress, Lane
County Commissioner, Aide to Congressman Jim
Weaver, Air Force Reserve

Reauthorize the federal county
payments program

Increase the federal investment
in infrastructure to help create
jobs and improve the long-term
economic viability of the country.

Repeal trade policies like NAFTA
and WTO to keep and bring jobs
home to America.

US REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 5

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

KURT SCHRADER*Democratic Party*

Town where I live: Canby, Oregon

Job/Experience: Farmer, veterinarian, small business owner, Oregon State Senator

Pull our troops and money out of Iraq and reinvest our resources in education and infrastructure.

Invest in Renewable Energy.

Create a plan that provides a basic level of health care for all Americans

MIKE ERICKSON*Republican Party*

Town where I live: Lake Oswego, OR

Job/Experience: Founder, President, AFMS Logistics, Cost Reduction Efficiency Experts

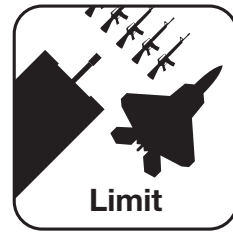
Create jobs, improve our economy and reduce our national debt.

Lower gas prices by doing everything possible to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, including increasing the use of wind, solar, and electric options plus increasing oil drilling in our own country.

Make health care affordable and lower the cost

STEVE MILLIGAN

Libertarian Party



End the wars and bring the troops home



Cut taxes



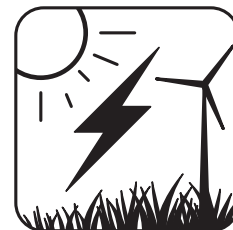
Create more jobs

Town where I live: Monmouth, OR

Job/Experience: Operations Manager, Business Owner, City Councilor

SEAN BATES

Independent Party



I will use an all available options method of fixing our energy dependence issues.



I will place in front of Congress a bill that makes English the official language of the United States, and only work on immigration reform after enforcement has been tried.



I will work within the system

Town where I live: Salem, OR

Job/Experience: I currently fix arcade games

US REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 5

Candidate Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

DOUGLAS PATTERSON
Constitution Party



Town where I live: Oregon City, Oregon
Job/Experience: Sales Representative



Protect your rights.



Cut your taxes

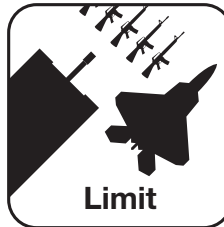


Leave you alone.

ALEX POLIKOFF
Pacific Green Party



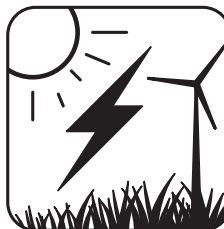
Town where I live: Corvallis, Oregon
Job/Experience: Power System Engineer,
Consultant, Powerplant Operator, Electrician



Get us out of Iraq and Afghanistan
and spend that money here at home.



Get rid of tax cuts for wealthy.
Guarantee health care for all
Americans, rich or poor.



Protect our right to freedom and
privacy. Use new, clean energy so
we don't use oil and destroy our
planet.

SECRETARY OF STATE

In charge of Oregon's elections

Makes sure state agencies are using public money carefully

Registers Oregon businesses

Serves on State Land Board

This job lasts 4 years; then the voters choose again.

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

KATE BROWN

Democratic Party

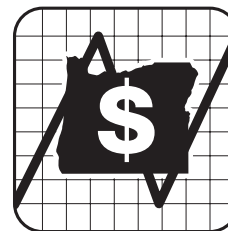


Town where I live: Portland

Job/Experience: Family and Juvenile Law Attorney, State Representative 1991-1996; State Senator since 1997, Caucus leader 1998-2007



Put integrity back in Oregon's initiative system



Audit state agencies to ensure our tax dollars are spent efficiently and effectively.



Increase voter registration and participation by engaging communities, currently under-represented in Oregon's political process.

SECRETARY OF STATE

Candidate Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

SETH ALLEN WOOLLEY
Pacific Green Party



End legalized bribery by limiting money donations to small amounts.



Let voters rank candidates for office as first, second, third, and so on to ensure those elected are supported by most voters.



Make it easier for independents to run for office and to investigate waste of tax money.

Town where I live: Portland, Oregon
Job/Experience: I'm a computer program writer and computer security investigator. I also run Green Party elections.

RICK DANCER
Republican Party



Make the Secretary of State's office nonpartisan. I will work to take politics out of the Secretary of State's office and work to put trust in.



Save taxpayers money by aggressively auditing wasteful state agencies.



Work to make sure that only legal citizens are permitted to register to vote.

Town where I live: Springfield, OR
Job/Experience: Retired journalist (23 years). Past President, Eugene City Club; Children's Miracle Network.

STATE TREASURER

Manages the state of Oregon's money

Serves on State Land Board

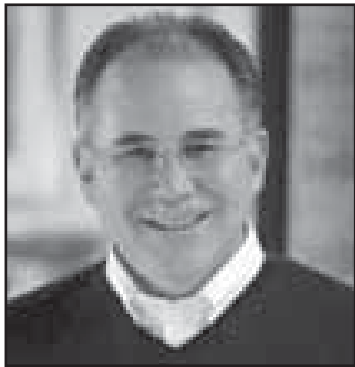
This job lasts 4 years; then the voters choose again.

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

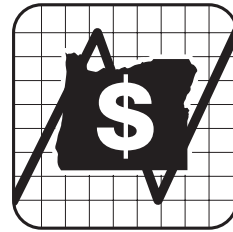
ALLEN ALLEY

Republican Party

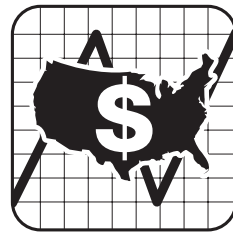


Town where I live: Lake Oswego, Oregon

Job/Experience: Company Co-founder and CEO, Venture Capitalist, Engineer, and Oregon Governor Kulongoski's Deputy Chief of Staff



Restructure the \$70 Billion investment fund to decrease risk and increase returns.



Use our position as the world's 41st largest pension fund to attract new investment in Oregon companies.



Use land assets to sustainably produce the greenest building product, wood, and increase capture and storage of CO2.

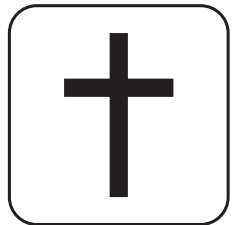
MICHAEL MARSH

Constitution Party

No photo submitted

Town where I live: Salem

Job/Experience: Variety



Small accountable government



School choice



Invent alternative energy

STATE TREASURER

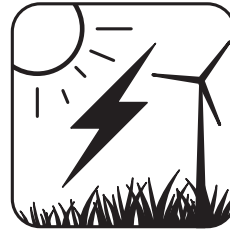
Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

BEN WESTLUND*Democratic Party*

Town where I live: Tumalo, Oregon

Job/Experience: Business owner, Healthcare consultant, State legislator



Lower energy costs by investing in renewable energy to create jobs and reduce our dependency on foreign oil.



Make healthcare more affordable so everyone can have insurance, especially sick people and children.



Expand technical and vocational training so everyone can find a job and make college more affordable

**Voters with Disabilities**

The Oregon Secretary of State and the Elections Division are committed to making voting more accessible to people with disabilities.

Alternate Format Ballot

The Alternate Format Ballot (AFB) is a new voting tool that is available to voters with disabilities. The AFB allows voters with disabilities who are unable to mark a printed ballot to vote privately and independently at home if they have, or have access to, a computer with a web browser and a printer.

Call 1-866-ORE VOTE/ 673-8683 or your county elections official for more information.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

The lead lawyer for the state of Oregon

This job lasts 4 years; then the voters choose again.

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

JOHN KROGER

Democratic Party



Tackle Oregon's meth problem with effective enforcement and a new plan for drug treatment



Protect the environment by holding polluters accountable for the damage they cause



Defend civil rights, a woman's right to choose and the rights of Oregon crime victims

Town where I live: Portland, Oregon

Job/Experience: U.S. Marine Corps, federal prosecutor, Enron prosecutor, professor of law at Lewis & Clark Law School

County Elections Offices

Baker – 541-523-8207

Benton – 541-766-6756

Clackamas – 503-655-8510

Clatsop – 503-325-8511

Columbia – 503-397-7214; Ext 8444

Coos – 541-396-3121; Ext 301

Crook – 541-447-6553

Curry – 1-877-739-4218

Deschutes – 541-388-6546

Douglas – 541-440-4252

Gilliam – 541-384-2311

Grant – 541-575-1675

Harney – 541-573-6641

Hood River – 541-386-1442

Jackson – 541-774-6148

Jefferson – 541-475-4451

Josephine – 541-474-5243

Klamath – 541-883-5134; 1-800-377-6094

Lake – 541-947-6006

Lane – 541-682-4234

Lincoln – 541-265-4131

Linn – 541-967-3831

Malheur – 541-473-5151

Marion – 503-588-5041; 1-800-655-5388

Morrow – 541-676-5604

Multnomah – 503-988-3720

Polk – 503-623-9217

Sherman – 541-565-3606

Tillamook – 503-842-3402

Umatilla – 541-278-6254

Union – 541-963-1006

Wallowa – 541-426-4543; Ext 15

Wasco – 541-506-2530

Washington – 503-846-5800

Wheeler – 541-763-2400

Yamhill – 503-434-7518

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Candidate Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

J. ASHLEE ALBIES
Working Families Party



Protect the civil and constitutional rights of all Oregonians.



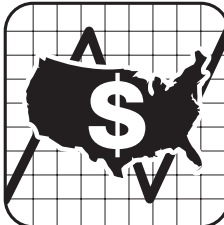
Protect working families from predatory lending practices and other forms of consumer fraud.



Increase treatment programs for nonviolent offenders rather than build more prisons.

Town where I live: Portland, Oregon
Job/Experience: My law practice has always focused on advocating for the rights of everyday people.

WALTER BROWN
Pacific Green Party



Establish a Consumer Protection Division to help Oregonians against the devastation of the Bush Administration's disastrous economic policies.



Create a Civil Rights Division to uphold the civil and constitutional rights of all Oregonians.



Strengthen enforcement of laws which provide environmental and consumer protection (e.g. water purity, food safety, land use).

Town where I live: Lake Oswego, Clackamas
Job/Experience: Navy (26 years); Northwestern Law School; Oregon Senate; Malheur County Deputy D.A.; volunteer consumer attorney

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

JAMES LEUENBERGER*Constitution Party*

Civil Rights

Ask the Legislative Assembly and People to create Circuit Courts



Constitution

Prohibit public funding of religions including – but not limited to – Paganism and Environmentalism



Cuts

Encourage widespread firearms education, training in use, and possession

Town where I live: Lake Oswego
 Job/Experience: Sole Practitioner
 Attorney 1993 to present

The 2008 ballot includes both statutory and constitutional amendments.

What is the difference? The Oregon Constitution is the basic law of the state. Voters must approve all constitutional amendments. Constitutional initiatives require more signatures to qualify. The Oregon Legislature debates and adopts most statutes, the laws and rules of the state. Initiative petitioners may also propose statutes. The Legislature has the authority to amend any statutory initiative approved by the voters but rarely does so without the consent of the sponsors.

BUREAU OF LABOR & INDUSTRIES COMMISSIONER

Serves as chief executive of the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries

Promotes workforce training

Enforces state laws related to housing discrimination, employment

Enforces laws regulating wages, hours, working conditions and child labor

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

PAVEL GOBERMAN



Town where I live: Beaverton

Job/Experience: Apprentice, vocational training, 56 years work experience. Have education and management experience.

I'm from working class. Support our Constitution, perform my job and obligations: enforce laws, conduct investigations of all filed Complaints of violation of laws.

Visit many workplaces, seniors and veterans facilities and talk to employees and employers.

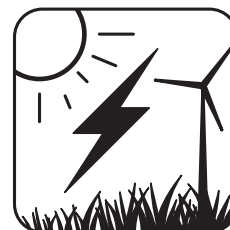
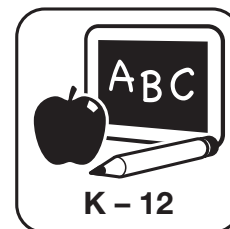
Try to prevent and negotiate possible conflicts and violations of laws. I have

BRAD AVAKIAN



Town where I live: Beaverton, Oregon

Job/Experience: I am the current Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industry, a civil rights attorney



Bring together new industries and training centers to provide workers the skills to quickly gain long term employment. Increase opportunities for skilled trades like plumbing, electrical, and construction jobs that provide high paying jobs.

Restore agricultural and technical education in our public schools.

Create the nation's best renewable energy workforce

BUREAU OF LABOR & INDUSTRIES COMMISSIONER

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

MARK WELYCZKO*No response received by deadline***SUPREME COURT JUDGE**

The Supreme Court is the highest court in Oregon. This court looks at cases from other Oregon courts to be sure that there are no mistakes. Only the United States Supreme Court can change a decision of the Oregon Supreme Court.

There are seven judges on this court.

This is a nonpartisan position, which means it is not connected to a political party.

This job lasts 6 years; then the voters choose again.

SUPREME COURT JUDGE - POSITION 7

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

MARTHA WALTERS**Work hard****Listen carefully****Work collegially**

Town where I live: Eugene

Job/Experience: Lawyer, Supreme Court Justice

COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE

The Court of Appeals looks to make sure there are no mistakes in trials. This court makes sure that people are treated fairly in cases from state agency hearings.

There are ten judges on this court.

This is a nonpartisan position, which means it is not connected to a political party.

This job lasts 6 years; then the voters choose again

COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE - POSITION 4

Candidate

Top 3 Things I want to do if I win.

TIMOTHY SERCOMBE



Work hard. Be accountable.
Earn the trust and confidence of
Oregonians.

Judge cases on the merits with no
agendas. Dedicate myself to the rule
of law.

Keep an open mind, especially on
cases that seem easy or routine.

Town where I live: Portland

Job/Experience: Court of Appeals judge since 2007.

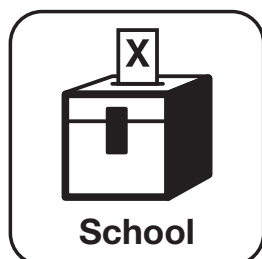
Private practice for 30 years. Paralegal before law school.

***Remember your ballot must be received by the County
Elections Office or official drop sites on November 4.
Postmarks don't count.***

Ballot Measure 54:

Changes Voter Rules for School Elections

Official Title – Amends the Constitution: Standardizes Voting Eligibility for School Board Elections with Other State and Local Elections.



Argument For:

It takes away language that is illegal. In 1972 Oregon's Attorney General wrote that this section of the Oregon Constitution didn't agree with the US Constitution and with the U.S. Supreme Court rulings. It makes sense to update this important document.



Argument Against:

The Oregon's Constitution is a way of keeping history and should be kept the way it always has been.

The Way It Is Now:

Language in the Oregon Constitution from 1948 states that voters who want to vote in school elections must be 21 years or older, have lived in the school district for at least 6 months and must be able to read and write in English. However, this law is not enforced since voting laws were changed for the whole United States. Voters now must be at least 18 years old, and a U.S. citizen. The language is outdated and is against U.S. law.

What Measure 54 would do:

The measure would remove the illegal wording about reading and writing in English, the need to be 21 years old and the rule about living in the school district for six months.

A "Yes" vote means: *Get rid of the illegal voter rules in the Constitution.*

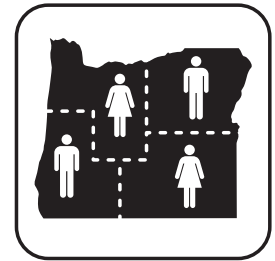
A "No" vote means: *Keep these voter rules in the Constitution.*

How much it would cost: *There is no new cost to the state.*



Ballot Measure 55:

Delays Start of Redistricting Plans



Official Title – Amends Constitution: Changes Operative Date of Redistricting Plans; Allows Affected Legislators to Finish Term in Original District



Argument For:

Measure 55 changes the date of the redistricting plan. This will let legislators serve their full terms representing the people who voted for them, instead of being given a different district. It corrects a problem in the system.



Argument Against:

Measure 55 delays the start of the new redistricting plan for more than a year. This means some citizens will live in districts that will be changed. This may cause voters to be confused about who is representing them.

A “Yes” vote means: *The redistricting plan will not go into effect until the next legislative session. Legislators will stay in their old districts until the end of their term.*

A “No” vote means: *The redistricting plan will go into effect the year after it is complete. Some legislators will be moved to new districts.*

The Way It Is Now:

Oregon is divided into areas, called districts. The voters in each district elect legislators (lawmakers) to represent them. Each district must have about the same number of people. The number of people living in a district changes because of people moving and because of births and deaths. To find out how many people live in each district, every 10 years the federal government counts everyone in the country. This is called a census.

After the census Oregon makes a plan to change the borders of the districts so that each has about the same number of people again. This plan for border changes is called redistricting. When the redistricting plan makes changes, sometimes more than one legislator ends up in the same district. Then some legislators must be given another district until the next election. Right now, the new redistricting plan goes into effect by December 31 of the year following the census.

What Measure 55 would do:

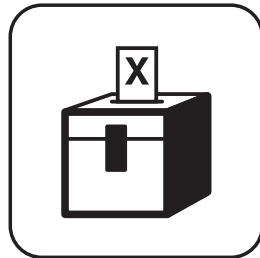
Ballot Measure 55 would change Oregon’s Constitution. If passed, Measure 55 would change the date when the new redistricting plan would become law. The new plan would not become law until the beginning of the next legislative session. For example, the next census will be taken in 2010. The redistricting plan will be written in 2011, but it would not become law until January 14, 2013, which would be the next legislative session. Measure 55 would also allow legislators to stay in their old districts until the end of their term.

How much it would cost: *There is no new cost to the state.*

Ballot Measure 56:

Simple Majority Decides Property Tax Vote

Official Title – Amends Constitution: Provides that May and November Property Tax Elections are Decided by Majority of Voters Voting



Argument For:

The current law is not fair because it means that when a voter does not vote in a property tax election, it is the same as a “no” vote. So, even if a majority of the people who voted, say “yes,” it will not pass.



Argument Against:

Property tax measures affect many people. It is important to have at least half of the registered voters deciding “yes” or “no” on these measures to be sure that the voters really want it.

The Way It Is Now:

In most elections, to pass a property tax, at least half of all the registered voters must vote and more than half of those voters must vote “yes” on the tax. This is known as the “double-majority” rule.

What Measure 56 would do:

Ballot Measure 56 would change Oregon’s Constitution. It would take away the double majority rule on all elections held in May and November. Then, when voters approve a property tax measure, that measure passes even if fewer than half the registered voters vote.

A “Yes” vote means: Property tax measures can be passed if a majority of those who vote, vote for it.

A “No” vote means: Property tax measures can only be passed if at least half of registered voters vote, and, if the majority of those voters vote for it.

How much it would cost: There is no new cost to the state.



Ballot Measure 57:

Prison plus Treatment



Official Title – Increases Sentences for Drug Trafficking, Theft against Elderly and Specified Repeat Property and Identity Theft Crimes; Requires Addiction Treatment for Certain Offenders



Argument For:

This measure would put the worst criminals in jail for a long time, but help other criminals break their drug habits so they won't steal again. It would cost one-third to one-half as much as Measure 61.



Argument Against:

This measure would not put enough thieves and drug dealers in jail, and it would not keep them locked up long enough.

The Way It Is Now:

When people are found guilty of dealing drugs or of stealing, the judge uses a sentencing guide to decide their punishment. Their punishment depends on how bad their crime was and how many times they were guilty of crimes in the past. A lot of criminals are sent to jail, but many get “probation.” (They are watched, but they are not in jail.) Most people who steal are drug addicts, but only a few of them get help to break their drug habits while they are in jail.

What Measure 57 would do:

Measure 57 would put more people in jail or prison for 3 to 10 years or more for:

- (1) selling large amounts of drugs like heroin, meth, cocaine and ecstasy;
 - (2) selling drugs to someone less than 18 years old; or
 - (3) stealing more than \$10,000 from a person who is older than 65.
- People who sell any amount of drugs more than once would have to go to jail and not have probation. Also, people who are found guilty more than 2 or 3 times of stealing a lot of money, a car, or someone's identity would have to spend at least 5 months longer in jail than they do now. The measure also says that the prisons and probation system must offer drug treatment to help criminals who are very addicted and likely to do more crimes. If a criminal who is out of jail refuses to get the drug treatment he is supposed to get, he would be punished and probably sent back to jail.

The Legislature put Measure 57 on the ballot as an option and alternative to Measure 61. If Measure 57 and Measure 61 both pass, the one with the most votes will win and become the law.

A “Yes” vote means: Increase the amount of prison time for certain crimes. Give treatment to criminals who are addicted to drugs.

A “No” vote means: Do not make changes in the way that prison time is decided.

How much it would cost: New spending for state government of \$9 million the first year. This new spending will go up to between about \$75 million to \$100 million for the next few years. After 2012, the cost will be about \$143 million per year.

Ballot Measure 58:

Limits Teaching in Language Other Than English

Official Title – Prohibits Teaching Public School Student In Language Other Than English For More Than Two Years



Argument For:

The current system does not help many children. Students will learn English faster if they are taught in English only classes



Argument Against:

This measure doesn't explain how the new system would work or who qualifies. There is no exception made for students with special language or learning needs.

The Way It Is Now:

Right now, the law calls for teaching all school subjects (except foreign languages) in English. The law allows teaching in more than one language so students can learn English faster. The law requires schools to provide English as a Second Language, or ESL classes for children unable to learn in classes taught in only English.

What Measure 58 would do:

This requires "English immersion" in public schools. Measure 58 has different levels of time during which a student may be taught in his/her language, such as an English as a Second Language, or ESL class. Students in kindergarten through fourth grade have one year before they must be taught only in English. Fifth through eighth graders have one and one half years before they must be taught only in English. Ninth through twelfth graders have two years before they must be taught only in English.

A "Yes" vote means: Limit the amount of time students in public schools can be taught in a language other than English.

A "No" vote means: Do not limit the amount of time students in public schools can be taught in a language other than English.

How much it would cost: *This measure will cost between \$203 million and \$253 million in each of the first two school years.*

Ballot Measure 59:

Deductibility of Federal Income Taxes

Official Title – Creates an Unlimited Deduction for Federal Income Taxes on Individual Taxpayers’ Oregon Income-Tax Returns



Argument For:

Taxpayers need tax relief and government wastes money. The state is now double-taxing money that exceeds the current allowable limits for deduction.



Argument Against:

By reducing the money the state has to spend, these tax cuts will result in drastic cuts in the budgets of needed education, health, and safety programs. This only helps the wealthy.

The Way It Is Now:

When filing state income taxes, Oregon taxpayers can deduct up to \$5,600 (for couples) of their federal income taxes. Currently, most (two-thirds) of Oregon taxpayers deduct all of their federal taxes because they fall under the limits allowed.

What Measure 59 would do:

It would allow Oregon taxpayers to deduct all they pay for federal income taxes on their Oregon income tax returns. About one-third of Oregon taxpayers will be affected by this measure. Two-thirds of Oregonians, because they pay less in federal taxes, can subtract all of their federal taxes under current limits and will not be affected by this measure.

A “Yes” vote means: Taxpayers deduct all of their federal income taxes on their Oregon tax returns.

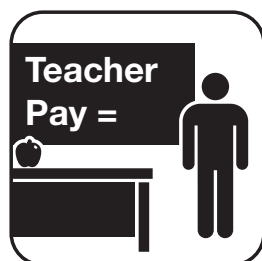
A “No” vote means: Taxpayers deduct up to \$5,600 per couple of their federal income taxes on their Oregon tax returns.

How much it would cost: This measure would reduce the money paid to the state up to \$2.4 billion each biennium, or two-year period. The state may also lose some federal money that comes through matching programs.

Ballot Measure 60:

Teacher Performance Not Seniority

Official Title – Teacher “Classroom Performance” Not Seniority, Determines Pay Raises; “Most Qualified” Teachers Retained, Regardless of Seniority.



Argument For:

Oregon needs to begin rewarding teachers based on their performance and not how long they have been doing a good or bad job of teaching.



Argument Against:

The measure will take money away from cash-starved schools and classrooms. It limits the freedom of local schools and forces teachers to “teach to the test.”

The Way It Is Now:

Right now, local school boards use a lot of information to decide how much teachers should get paid and which teachers they should keep. School boards make these decisions based on the teacher’s experience, education, licenses, and seniority.

What Measure 60 would do:

Measure 60 says that pay raises for a public school teacher should be based on the teacher’s “classroom performance.” Measure 60 also says if a school district reduces the number of teachers, the “most qualified” teachers will keep their jobs. “Most qualified” is decided by the teachers’ education and on their “past classroom experience successfully teaching the specific subject.”

A “Yes” vote means: *The amount that public school teachers are paid is based on their classroom performance. Schools must keep the “most qualified” teachers when laying off teachers.*

A “No” vote means: *Keep current laws letting local school boards decide how much to pay teachers and which teachers to keep.*

How much it would cost: *The measure will cost \$13 million to start up with a possible \$29 million or more to operate each year.*

Ballot Measure 61:

Mandatory Minimum Sentences

Official Title – Creates Mandatory Minimum Prison Sentences for Certain Theft, Identity Theft, Forgery, Drug, and Burglary Crimes.



Argument For:

Putting criminals in prison longer reduces crime. First-time criminals usually have committed other crimes and just haven't been caught before. Strict prison sentences would deter crime.



Argument Against:

Criminals should get tough sentences, but judges should be allowed to decide the best sentence in each case. Measure 61 could cost Oregon taxpayers over a billion dollars over time.

The Way It Is Now:

Persons who commit crimes of theft, burglary, identity theft, forgery, or making or selling drugs receive prison sentences of different lengths. Judges use sentencing guidelines, but can make decisions on a case-by-case basis, such as giving probation for a first-time offender who seeks treatment.

What Measure 61 would do:

If this measure passes, there would be required minimum prison or work camp sentences for persons convicted of the above crimes. Judges could use only the minimum sentencing laws.

If Measure 57 and Measure 61 both pass, the one with the most votes will win and become the law.

A "Yes" vote means: Everyone who is found guilty of these crimes will have a required minimum amount of time in prison.

A "No" vote means: People who commit these crimes will have different prison times.

How much it would cost: \$8 to \$10 million the 1st year and up to \$161 to \$274 million the fifth year. Three new prisons may be needed; they will cost over a billion dollars. Interest will have to be paid on this borrowed money.



Ballot Measure 62:

Changes Use of Lottery Proceeds



Official Title – Amends Constitution: Allocates 15% of Lottery Proceeds to Public Safety Fund for Crime Prevention, Investigation, Prosecution



Argument For:

In the past, there has not been enough money for public safety programs. This has led to long waits for investigating crimes and testing evidence. The lottery has a lot of profits and so Oregon could pay for good public safety programs and still have money for other programs.



Argument Against:

Spending 15% of lottery money on public safety would lead to cuts in other programs, especially money for schools. It affects the creation of a trained workforce that influences which businesses come to our state.

The Way It Is Now:

Right now, profits from the sale of state lottery games must be spent on specific programs. These programs include: education, parks, and economic development (such as money for businesses and job training).

What Measure 62 would do:

Measure 62 would change how some of the lottery profits are spent. If it passes, 15% of state lottery profits would be spent on 3 types of public safety programs. The first type of program to get money would be crime prevention, which would include programs for “at risk” children. The second type of program would be for investigating crimes and testing evidence. The third type of public safety program would be for prosecuting criminals.

A “Yes” vote means: Change the Oregon Constitution to give 15% of lottery profits to public safety programs.

A “No” vote means: Do not change the Oregon Constitution. Keep spending lottery profits the way we do now.

How much it would cost: Measure 62 would take out of lottery proceeds \$100 million in the first year, \$106 million in the second year, \$113 million in the third year and \$120 million in the fourth year. There is not direct cost to state government unless the Legislature chooses to replace the lost revenue for schools and other programs.

Ballot Measure 63:

Allows Some Improvements without Building Permits

Official Title – Exempts Specified Property Owners from Building Permit Requirements for Improvements Valued at/under \$35,000.



Argument For:

People will be more likely to make improvements on their homes if they don't need to get a permit. This will increase the value of their properties. Also, people will be able to make home improvements without getting a fine for not having a permit.



Argument Against:

It will not be possible to check that people are following the building code rules. This means some places might not be safe and insurance companies may not cover them. Also, it will be hard to tell when an improvement is worth \$35,000 or less. Finally, it will be hard to tell how much the property is worth for tax purposes.

The Way It Is Now:

People who own their homes and want to make certain improvements on their house, like an addition, must get a permit and pay fees. Permits may or may not be needed for some improvements, like replacing cabinets, painting, or putting in new carpet. Local governments make decisions about what types of improvements require permits.

What Measure 63 would do:

People will not need to get a building permit when making most improvements on their house, if the improvement is worth \$35,000 or less. People can also make improvements on farm buildings without a permit, if the changes are worth \$35,000 or less. The homeowners must tell people who want to buy their house about all of the improvements made without permits. Only an electrician can make changes or put in new electrical wiring.

A "Yes" vote means: Minor improvements on homes or farms, worth \$35,000 or less, will not need a building permit.

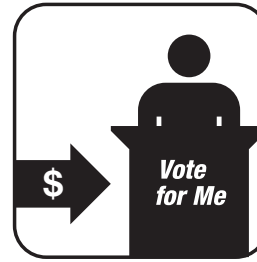
A "No" vote means: Building permits are needed for most improvements, even those valued at less than \$35,000.

How much it would cost: The state government would receive less money, between \$450,000 and \$750,000 each year. Local government money will be reduced between \$4 million and \$8 million through reduced building permits. However, they would save about the same by doing fewer inspections.

Ballot Measure 64:

Prohibits Public Employer from Making Payroll Deductions for Political Purpose

Official Title – Penalizes Person, Entity for Using Funds Collected with “Public Resource” (Defined) for “Political Purpose” (Defined)



Argument For:

When public employers deduct money for union dues, and part of this money is used for political purposes, it is as if taxpayers are paying for union politics. Using public facilities, whether it is buildings or computers, for political purposes is not right.



Argument Against:

This ballot measure is too broad and affects more than unions. It does not cost anything for public employers to deduct money for dues or charities. They are already deducting money for taxes and other things. This limits only one part of political fundraising and so is unfair.

The Way It Is Now:

Some workers, like those in unions, get money deducted from their paycheck for dues or for charities. Some of this money may be used for political purposes.

What Measure 64 would do:

Measure 64 would stop public employers from deducting money from paychecks for union dues if any part of that money were used in political campaigns. The measure would ban the use of “public resources,” including buildings, supplies, and employees if the use is for a political purpose. The exceptions to this ban are making a voters’ guide and most lobbying, if it is not related to a political campaign. If someone did use some of the money or public buildings for political purposes, they would be fined.

A “Yes” vote means: *Public employers may not deduct money for dues or charities from employee paychecks, if some of that money is used for political purposes. Public resources cannot be used for political purposes.*

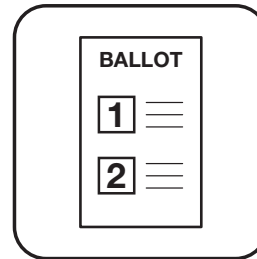
A “No” vote means: *Public employers may continue to deduct money for dues or charities from employee paychecks.*

How much it would cost: *Measure 64 would cost less than \$100,000 to implement*

Ballot Measure 65:

Changes Primary Election Process

Official Title – Changes General Election Nomination Processes for Major/ Minor Party,, Independent Candidates for Most Partisan Offices



Argument For:

All voters would be able to vote in the primary election in May, not only the people who have chosen a party. The top two candidates would be the two favored by the most number of voters.



Argument Against:

If you only let the top two candidates on the ballot in the general election in November, then you are limiting the choices for voting. The top two could even be from the same party.

The Way It Is Now:

When you register to vote, you can choose a party, or you can choose to not be in a party. The candidates can also choose to belong to a party or they may choose to not be in any party. In the May primary election, voters who chose a party can only vote for candidates from that party. Voters who did not choose a party cannot vote for the party candidates in the May primary elections, but can vote on measures and non-partisan positions. In the November general elections, everyone who is registered can vote for candidates from any party.

What Measure 65 would do:

It would put all candidates on the ballot in the May primary elections. Everyone would be able to vote for the candidate of their choice, no matter which party. The two candidates that get the most votes will run against each other in the general election in November.

A "Yes" vote means: *The primary election law would be changed. Everyone could vote for the candidate of his or her choice in the May primary election.*

A "No" vote means: *There would be no change in the present election system.*

How much it would cost: *It would cost state and local governments \$100,000 for one-time changes. Every two years it would cost \$100,000 for the state to publish the Voter Pamphlet and \$227,000 for counties to print and mail the primary ballot.*

About this guide

The candidates provided their own statements for this Guide. All candidates were invited to submit information. Candidate statements are printed using the candidates' grammar, spelling, punctuation and selection of graphics. The League of Women Voters of Oregon researched and wrote descriptions of the ballot measures. We tried to make sure that all facts and explanations were correct. We checked with the Secretary of State's office and with persons in favor and against each measure.

You can get this guide from www.VoteSource.org online. At this site you can also complete a survey and make comments. This guide is also available in Spanish. Para pedir copias de esta Guia en espanol, llame a la oficina de League of Women Voters of Oregon al 503-581-5722

Where to get copies

You can download copies from the web at www.VoteSource.org. Text and audio versions are also on the web. To get an audio CD of the Easy Voters' Guide, call 503-986-2352. To get an audio tape, or Braille copy of the REGULAR version, call Talking Book and Braille Service at 1-800-452-0292. Copies can also be found in your county clerk's office, many libraries and at the LWVOR State office in Salem.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon Education Fund, Disability Rights Oregon and Self Advocates as Leaders developed this Easy Voters' Guide. Many people helped with this guide and it would not have been published without their help. They include: Julie Anderson, Vernadene Anderson, Diana Bodtker, Janet Calvert, Ben Cerezo, Cheryl Douglass, Bea Epperson, Marianne Germond, Gene Newton, Rebecca Smith and Frank Schiedler.

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Vernier Software and Technology

Oregon School Employees Association

PacifiCorp

Wells Fargo

Disability Rights Oregon

Pamplin Media Group

The Standard

Oregon School Boards Assoc.

Georges C. St. Laurent, Jr.