

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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ARCHIVES DIVISION

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING
INCLUDING STATEMENT OF NEED & FISCAL IMPACT

CHAPTER 165
SECRETARY OF STATE
ELECTIONS DIVISION

FILED

10/18/2024 3:28 PM
ARCHIVES DIVISION
SECRETARY OF STATE

FILING CAPTION: Defines requirements for Transmission of Original Documents to Authorized Officials of the United States.

LAST DAY AND TIME TO OFFER COMMENT TO AGENCY: 12/13/2024 5:00 PM

The Agency requests public comment on whether other options should be considered for achieving the rule's substantive goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business.

CONTACT: Bob Roberts
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Public Service Building
255 Capitol Street NE, Suite 126
Salem, OR 97310

Filed By:
Bob Roberts
Rules Coordinator

HEARING(S)

Auxiliary aids for persons with disabilities are available upon advance request. Notify the contact listed above.

DATE: 12/12/2024

TIME: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

OFFICER: Bob Roberts

REMOTE HEARING DETAILS

MEETING URL: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

PHONE NUMBER: 503-446-4951

CONFERENCE ID: 494995791

NEED FOR THE RULE(S)

Federal law prescribes general processes that states must follow to designate members of the Electoral College, who select a president and vice president every four years. In 2022, the federal government passed the Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act, or ECRA, to clarify the processes for counting electoral votes and to strengthen security features. This bipartisan legislation updated the Electoral Count Act of 1887, which had not been substantially changed since its enactment. This rule implements legislative mandates found in HB 4019 (2024) to incorporate ECRA changes.

DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON, AND WHERE THEY ARE AVAILABLE

HB 4019 (2024), Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act of 2022 available online at oregonlegislature.gov or from the Elections Division.

STATEMENT IDENTIFYING HOW ADOPTION OF RULE(S) WILL AFFECT RACIAL EQUITY IN THIS STATE

This rule promotes racial equity. The terms of the rule promote racial equity by protecting against implicit bias and

ensuring that the same guidelines and procedures apply consistently to all qualified Presidential Electors and all political parties.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT:

Proposed rules may cause minimal fiscal or economic impact to the Secretary of State, Elections Division.

COST OF COMPLIANCE:

(1) Identify any state agencies, units of local government, and members of the public likely to be economically affected by the rule(s). (2) Effect on Small Businesses: (a) Estimate the number and type of small businesses subject to the rule(s); (b) Describe the expected reporting, recordkeeping and administrative activities and cost required to comply with the rule(s); (c) Estimate the cost of professional services, equipment supplies, labor and increased administration required to comply with the rule(s).

(1) There may be a minimal fiscal impact for the state Elections Division to implement and answer questions regarding compliance with these rules, or for other unanticipated reasons.

(2)(a) Because these rules regulate the activity of State, it is not expected to impact small businesses.

(2)(b), (c) The cost that any elections office required to comply with this rule may be responsible for is dependent upon specific circumstances and cannot readily be determined.

DESCRIBE HOW SMALL BUSINESSES WERE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE RULE(S):

Small businesses were not involved as this rule does not directly affect small businesses.

WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE RULE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSULTED? NO IF NOT, WHY NOT?

The fiscal impact of proposed rules are expected to be minimal at most.

ADOPT: 165-025-0130

RULE SUMMARY: Enacts HB 4019 (2024). Defines requirements for Transmission of Original Documents to Authorized Officials of the United States. Aligns Oregon with the Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act of 2022.

CHANGES TO RULE:

165-025-0130

Transmission of Original Documents to Authorized Officials of the United States

(1) The Secretary of State's duties after the convening of presidential electors shall include but shall not be limited to, the following:¶

(a) transmitting original documents related to the convening of electors to officials of the United States as required by law and communicating with those officials to ensure the documents are received promptly and securely;¶

(b) maintaining in a secure manner at least two additional sets of the original documents transmitted to officials of the United States; ¶

(c) communicating as necessary with officials of the United States regarding authenticity of the original documents transmitted to them; and¶

(d) undertaking any other actions that the Secretary of State deems necessary and proper to ensure that officials of the United States promptly receive and can properly authenticate the original documents related to the convening of electors in the manner required by law.¶

(2) The Secretary of State may transmit one or more of the sets of original documents described in OAR 165-025-0120 to an official of the United States if the Secretary of State has already transmitted the documents described in section (3)(g) to that official and those documents are missing, damaged, or cannot be authenticated. ¶

(3) The Secretary of State must retain at least one of the sets of original documents described in section (3)(g) in the custody of the state of Oregon.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 246.150, Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act,

HB 4019 (2024), ORS 248.370

Statutes/Other Implemented: HB 4019 (2024), ORS 248.370