


# 2019 Synopsis of Oregon Election Laws

*Compiled by*

Elections Division  
255 Capitol St NE Suite 501  
Salem OR 97310-0722

 503 986 1518  
**fax** 503 373 7414  
**tty** 1 800 735 2900  
[www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov)

*Enacted by*

80th Legislative Assembly



## Secretary of State

Elections Division Rev. 09/2019

# Summary Table of Election Related Bills Enacted

## Bill Order

### House Bills

Bill No.	ORS	Page
HB 2015	Relating to documents issued by the Department of Transportation; creating new provisions; amending ORS 97.953, 247.017, 659A.885, 802.195, 802.200, 807.021, 807.040, 807.130, 807.173, 807.285, 807.310, 807.400, 807.405 and 807.730 and section 4, chapter 60, Oregon Laws 2018; repealing ORS 807.735; and declaring an emergency.	6
HB 2270	Relating to taxes on nonfood consumer products; creating new provisions; amending ORS 323.010, 323.031, 323.455, 323.457, 323.500, 323.505, 323.625 and 431A.175; providing for revenue raising that requires approval by a three-fifths majority; and providing that this Act shall be referred to the people for their approval or rejection.	31
HB 2321	Relating to public records of county juvenile department employees; amending ORS 192.345, 192.511, 312.030 and 802.250; and prescribing an effective date.	26
HB 2353	Relating to public records; amending ORS 192.407; and declaring an emergency.	26
HB 2377	Relating to state financial administration; creating new provisions; amending ORS 3.012, 21.007, 171.072, 180.095, 180.160, 291.278, 292.406, 292.411, 292.416, 292.426 and 475B.759; repealing ORS 9.577 and section 5, chapter 775, Oregon Laws 2009, and section 3, chapter 81, Oregon Laws 2018; and declaring an emergency.	25
HB 2488	Relating to cryptocurrency.	21
HB 2491	Relating to precinct committeepersons; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 248.015, 248.017, 248.023, 248.024, 248.026, 248.029, 248.033, 248.035, 248.043, 249.013, 249.035 and 249.037. <b>Repealed by Section 34, SB 224.</b>	N/A
HB 2577	Relating to annexations; creating new provisions; amending ORS 222.750; and declaring an emergency.	28
HB 2592	Relating to transportation; creating new provisions; amending ORS 184.612, 184.665, 319.665, 319.671, 320.400, 320.430, 320.440, 320.470, 366.747, 367.080, 367.081, 367.084, 367.095, 367.097, 801.194, 801.285, 803.203, 803.420, 818.340, 823.012, 825.141, 825.450, 825.452 and 825.454 and section 18, chapter 30, Oregon Laws 2010, section 7, chapter 700, Oregon Laws 2015, sections 45, 71f, 148, 149 and 150, chapter 750, Oregon Laws 2017, and sections 30a and 30b, chapter 93, Oregon Laws 2018; repealing ORS 367.089 and 824.237 and section 1, chapter 55, Oregon Laws 2012, and section 71c, chapter 750, Oregon Laws 2017; and prescribing an effective date.	25
HB 2716	Relating to campaign finance; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 260.995.	21, 24
HB 2983	Relating to campaign finance; creating new provisions; amending ORS 260.005, 260.044, 260.055, 260.218 and 260.402; and declaring an emergency.	22 – 23

## House Bills (cont.)

Bill No.	ORS	Page
HB 3310	Relating to voting rights for electors in protected classes; creating new provisions; amending ORS 249.031, 249.720, 255.055, 255.235, 255.245, 255.325, 255.335, 332.012, 332.018, 332.030, 332.118, 332.122, 332.124, 332.126, 332.128, 332.132, 332.134, 332.138, 334.025, 334.032, 334.035, 334.045, 334.090, 334.095, 334.690, 334.710, 334.730, 334.740, 334.750, 341.125, 341.175, 341.185, 341.326, 341.327, 341.331, 341.356, 341.357 and 341.577; and prescribing an effective date.	12 – 13, 19 – 20, 29
HB 3348	Relating to disclosure of financial impact of ballot measures; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 250.125 and 250.127.	14
HB 3365	Relating to livestock districts; creating new provisions; amending ORS 255.305 and 607.080; and repealing ORS 607.010, 607.012, 607.013, 607.015, 607.020, 607.025, 607.040, 607.042 and 607.043.	20, 30

## Senate Bills


Bill No.	ORS	Page
SB 92	Relating to annexation of lands zoned for residential use; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 222.111 and 222.750.	28
SB 116	Relating to elections; and declaring an emergency.	
SB 224	Relating to elections; creating new provisions; amending ORS 171.062, 246.021, 247.013, 247.940, 247.945, 247.965, 248.015, 248.017, 248.023, 248.024, 248.026, 248.029, 248.033, 248.035, 248.043, 249.013, 249.035, 249.037, 249.068, 249.072, 249.078, 249.865, 253.540, 253.565, 254.155 and 255.012 and section 9, chapter 8, Oregon Laws 2015, and section 1, chapter 119, Oregon Laws 2016; repealing ORS 248.010 and sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16, chapter 70, Oregon Laws 2019 (Enrolled House Bill 2491); and prescribing an effective date.	5 – 13, 16 – 17, 19, 26
SB 226	Relating to elections; and declaring an emergency.	27
SB 288	Relating to public meetings in Indian country; amending ORS 192.630.	26
SB 294	Relating to pioneer cemeteries.	27
SB 355	Relating to correction of erroneous material in Oregon law; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 18.358, 18.600, 25.010, 25.011, 25.020, 25.080, 25.085, 25.089, 25.091, 25.166, 25.240, 25.280, 25.287, 25.399, 25.720, 30.136, 30.138, 40.210, 73.0417, 74.2080, 86.610, 86.620, 98.852, 98.858, 107.108, 107.835, 109.065, 133.807, 169.080, 173.025, 174.535, 181A.820, 184.619, 227.185, 238.445, 244.290, 255.012, 327.880, 413.574, 416.400, 416.407, 416.440, 418.310, 419B.806, 443.455, 459A.739, 461.250, 541.984, 543.170, 624.010, 634.306, 646.605, 646.608, 646.633, 656.005, 657.855, 676.220, 689.689, 734.810, 750.055 and 822.235 and section 1a, chapter 548, Oregon Laws 2015, and ORCP 69 C.	19
SB 393	Relating to translator districts; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 354.625, 354.655 and 354.690.	29

## Senate Bills (cont.)

<b>Bill No.</b>	<b>ORS</b>	<b>Page</b>
SB 431	Relating to urban flood safety and water quality districts; creating new provisions; amending ORS 174.116, 198.010, 198.310, 198.510 and 255.012; and prescribing an effective date.	20, 25 – 27
SB 478	Relating to nondisclosure agreements; creating new provisions; amending ORS 244.350, 260.407 and 260.995; and declaring an emergency.	22 – 24, 28 – 29
SB 630	Relating to central committee meetings; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 248.012, 248.033 and 248.075.	9 – 11
SB 670	Relating to information provided to voters; amending ORS 251.026, 251.315, 254.408, 254.458 and 254.470.	15, 17 – 18
SB 731	Relating to political activity at public post-secondary institutions of education; creating new provisions; amending ORS 260.432; and prescribing an effective date.	23
SB 761	Relating to electronic signature sheets; amending ORS 250.052.	14
SB 861	Relating to elections; creating new provisions; amending ORS 254.470, 260.665 and 545.163; and prescribing an effective date.	17 – 18, 24, 30
SB 870	Relating to the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote.	30
SB 933	Relating to inquiries issued by public bodies about race or ethnicity.	25
SB 944	Relating to election audits; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 254.529 and 254.535.	17 – 18
SB 977	Relating to courts; amending ORS 3.041 and 51.020; repealing ORS 51.270 and 51.280; and declaring an emergency.	25 – 26




# ORS Chapter 246

## Administration of Election Laws



ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
246.021	224	4	Amend	<p>Adds ORS 253.540 and 253.565 as exceptions to requirement that ballots, voter registration cards or petitions requiring signatures of voters be physically submitted.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>

# ORS Chapter 247

## Qualification and Registration of Electors



ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
247.013	SB 224	1	Amend	<p>Eliminates obligation of county elections official to inactivate the registration of a voter who has neither voted nor updated their registration for a period of not less than 5 years.</p> <p>Removes prohibition against inactivating a voter who has neither voted nor updated their registration for a period of not less than 5 years during the 60-day period prior to an election.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
247.017	HB 2015	23c	Amend	<p>Allows the Department of Transportation, by rule, to deploy any form or application the department determines is necessary to comply with NVRA. Becomes operative January 1, 2021.</p> <p> Effective June 4, 2019</p>
247.940	SB 224	5	Amend	<p>Updates requirement for political parties to request free statewide voter file from county clerk to Secretary of State. Removes ability for a political party central committee or other county affiliate to request a free statewide voter file.</p> <p>Removes list of data elements the statewide voter file is required to contain. Adds reference to ORS 247.945(4) and provides the voter file may not contain any information that may not be publicly disclosed under section 21, chapter 70, Oregon Laws 2019.</p> <p>Changes deadline for a political party to request a free statewide voter file from no later than the 21<sup>st</sup> day before a primary, general or special congressional election to no earlier than six months before and no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day before a primary, general or special election.</p> <p>Clarifies that a party may make no more than two separate requests per primary, general or special election.</p> <p>Requires Secretary of State to provide free statewide voter file no later than 10 days after receiving the request.</p> <p>Prohibits the Secretary of State from charging for preparation and delivery of the free statewide voter file described in this section.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>

## ORS Chapter 247 (cont.)

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
247.945	SB 224	6	Amend	<p>Adds list requested under ORS 247.940 as an exception to requirement for Secretary of State to charge \$500 for a statewide voter file.</p> <p>Provides the voter file may not contain any information that may not be publicly disclosed under section 21, chapter 70, Oregon Laws 2018.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
247.965	SB 224	7	Amend	<p>Provides Secretary of State shall not be held liable for granting or denying a request to exempt residence address or any unauthorized release of an exempt residence address.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>





# ORS Chapter 248

## Political Parties; Presidential Electors





ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
248	SB 224	16	Add	<p>Establishes process for person to declare write-in candidacy for precinct committeeperson.</p> <p>Specifies the declaration shall be made on a form prescribed by the Secretary by rule. Form must be filed no later than 8 pm on the date of the election.</p> <p>Requires county elections official, upon receipt of declaration, to determine if the person meets the qualifications to serve as a precinct committeeperson and, if qualified, to count the write-in votes the person receives.</p> <p>Provides that if no person qualifies as a candidate or write-in candidate for the position of precinct committeeperson, the position shall be vacant.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248	SB 224	17	Add	<p>Establishes process for person to nominate another person as write-in candidate for precinct committeeperson.</p> <p>Specifies the nomination shall be made on a form prescribed by the Secretary by rule. Form must be filed no later than 8 pm on the date of the election.</p> <p>Requires person nominating write-in candidate for precinct committeeperson to be of the same political party as the candidate as well as reside in the same county and House of Representative district.</p> <p>Specifies a person nominated as a write-in candidate for precinct committeeperson is not eligible for the office unless the person meets the qualifications in ORS 248.015(4) and receives three or more votes.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>










## ORS Chapter 248 (cont.)

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
248.006	SB 224	30	Amend	<p>Extends Section 1, chapter 119, Oregon Laws 2016. Provides that for the purpose of maintaining status as a major political party under ORS 248.006(3) for the period up to and including the November 3, 2020, General Election, the total number of registered electors is deemed to be the number identified in the registration records of the Secretary of State on July 1, 2015.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Because the effective date for this section was after the date required for determining the number of registered electors with a political party the party determinations were already made and this section has no effect.</p>
248.008	SB 224	31	Amend	<p>Extends Section 9, chapter 8, Oregon Laws 2015. Provides that for the purpose of maintaining status as a minor political party under ORS 248.008(4)(a), for the period up to and including the November 3, 2020, General Election, the total number of registered electors is deemed to be the number identified in the registration records of the Secretary of State on July 1, 2015.</p> <p>For purpose of maintaining status as minor political party under ORS 248.008(4)(b), for the period up to and including the November 3, 2020, General Election, the total number of votes cast for Governor is deemed to be the total number of votes cast in the state or electoral district for Governor on November 4, 2014.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248.010	SB 224	33	Repeal	<p>Repeals exclusive use of political party name.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248.012	SB 630	1	Amend	<p>Authorizes chairperson of county central committee or state central committee to send notification of committee meetings to the entire membership of the committee via email.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>

## ORS Chapter 248 (cont.)






ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
248.015	SB 224	26	Amend	<p>Eliminates provision of electing precinct committeepersons by gender.</p> <p>Changes formula and date used to calculate the number of elected committeepersons per precinct. Formula now allows for the election of one precinct committeeperson for every 250 electors, or major fraction thereof, who are registered in the precinct 251 days before the primary election.</p> <p>Modifies precinct geographic boundaries in which committeeperson may serve to include a precinct that is both in the same county and state representative district as the precinct in which the person is registered.</p> <p>Updates references of county clerk to county elections official and committeeperson to precinct committeeperson.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248.017	SB 224	27	Amend	<p>Clarifies that a candidate who is a registered member of the major political party not later than 180 days before the date of the primary election is eligible to file a declaration of candidacy for the office of precinct committeeperson.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248.023	SB 224	19	Amend	<p>Requires county elections official to mail an "Acceptance of Office" form to each newly elected precinct committeeperson who was nominated by another person.</p> <p>Updates references of county clerk to county elections official and committeeperson to precinct committeeperson.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248.024	SB 224	20	Amend	<p>Incorporates modified precinct geographic boundaries in which committeeperson may serve into the notification requirements of county central committees.</p> <p>Updates references of county clerk to county elections official and committeeperson to precinct committeeperson.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>

## ORS Chapter 248 (cont.)





ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
248.026	SB 224	21	Amend	<p>Incorporates modified precinct geographic boundaries in which committeeperson may serve into the qualifications required of a person selected to fill a vacancy in precinct committeeperson.</p> <p>Updates references of county clerk to county elections official and committeeperson to precinct committeeperson.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248.029	SB 224	22	Amend	<p>Updates references of county clerk to county elections official and committeeperson to precinct committeeperson.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248.033	SB 224	23	Amend	<p>Updates references of county clerk to county elections official and committeeperson to precinct committeeperson.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248.033	SB 630	2	Amend	<p>Authorizes county central committee to send notice of organizational meeting to state central committee and each member of the county central committee by email.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
248.035	SB 224	24	Amend	<p>Updates references of county clerk to county elections official and committeeperson to precinct committeeperson.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248.043	SB 224	25	Amend	<p>Updates references of county clerk to county elections official and committeeperson to precinct committeeperson.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
248.075	SB 630	3	Amend	<p>Allows state central committee to send notice of organizational meeting to each member of the state central committee and each county central committee by email.</p> <p>Provides if organizational meeting called by the petition of at least 19 chairpersons of county central committees, the chairpersons may send notice to all county chairpersons and vice chairpersons by email.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>

# ORS Chapter 249

## Candidates; Recall




ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
249.013	SB 224	29	Amend	<p>Provides that if a person files a declaration of write-in candidacy for precinct committeeperson, any prior declaration of candidacy for precinct committeeperson filed for that election by the same person is considered withdrawn.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
249.031	HB 3310	7	Amend	<p>Requires nominating petition templates or declaration of candidacy to partisan office by major political party or to nonpartisan office to provide the option for the candidate to disclose the candidate's race and ethnicity.</p> <p>Becomes operative January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
249.035	SB 224	18	Amend	<p>Adds precinct committeeperson write-in form, adopted by the Secretary of State under Sections 16 and 17 of SB 224, to list of documents that shall be filed with the county elections official.</p> <p>Updates references of county clerk to county elections official.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
249.037	SB 224	28	Amend	<p>Changes the first day a candidate for the office of precinct committeeperson may file a declaration of candidacy to not sooner than the 250<sup>th</sup> day before the date of the primary election.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
249.068	SB 224	11	Amend	<p>Simplifies the geographic distribution requirement for signatures gathered on a major party candidate nominating petition. If the office is a statewide office the petition must contain the signatures of at least 100 voters registered in each congressional district.</p> <p>Deletes the distribution requirements for the offices of US Representative, state senator and state representative, as well as county and city offices.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>

## ORS Chapter 249 (cont.)

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
249.072	SB 224	12	Amend	<p>Simplifies the geographic distribution requirement for signatures gathered on a nonpartisan candidate nominating petition. If the office is a statewide office the petition must contain the signatures of at least 100 voters registered in each congressional district. Deletes distribution requirements for all other nonpartisan offices.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
249.078	SB 224	13	Amend	<p>Deletes distribution requirements for a major political party nominating petition for the office of President.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
249.720	HB 3310	8	Amend	<p>Requires certificate of nomination to partisan office by other than major political party to provide the option for the candidate to disclose the candidate's race and ethnicity.</p> <p>Becomes operative January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
249.865	SB 224	14	Amend	<p>Provides that the production and circulation of a recall petition must comply with the recall provisions in ORS 250.048 and 250.052.</p> <p>Deletes provision allowing the treasurer of the recall committee to appear on the cover sheet instead of the chief petitioner as well as the provision invalidating the prospective petition for an intentional violation of ORS 249.865(1) and (2) by the treasurer.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>



# ORS Chapter 250

## Initiative and Referendum

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
250.052	SB 761	1	Amend	<p>Requires voter to certify that they printed the e-sheet or that it was printed by another person specifically for the elector, at the voter's request.</p> <p>Prohibits the Secretary of State or county clerk from tallying e-sheets not in compliance.</p> <p>Deletes provision exempting e-sheets from having a cover sheet printed on the reverse. Template must include text of initiative or referendum.</p> <p>Prohibits circulators from providing an e-sheet to voters.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
250.125	HB 3348	1	Amend	<p>Requires the financial estimate committee to prepare and file with the Secretary of State the statement "MEASURE SPENDS MONEY WITHOUT IDENTIFYING A FUNDING SOURCE" if the committee determines that a ballot measure will have a financial effect on state, local or tribal government expenditures in excess of \$100,000 and that the measure lacks dedicated funding.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
250.127	HB 3348	2	Amend	<p>Allows the financial estimate committee to prepare and file a statement explaining the statement "MEASURE SPENDS MONEY WITHOUT IDENTIFYING A FUNDING SOURCE" if the committee finds it necessary.</p> <p>Changes references from "statement" to "statements."</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>



# ORS Chapter 251

## Voters' Pamphlet

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
251.026	SB 670	1	Amend	<p>Prohibits name of filing officer from appearing in their official capacity in the voters' pamphlet, if the filing officer is a candidate in the election.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
251.315	SB 670	2	Amend	<p>Prohibits name of filing officer from appearing in their official capacity in the county voters' pamphlet, if the filing officer is a candidate in the election.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>

# ORS Chapter 253





## Absent Electors

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
253.540	SB 224	2	Amend	<p>Provides that a written application for an absentee ballot by a military or overseas voter may be submitted by mail, email, fax or other means identified by the Secretary of State by rule.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
253.565	SB 224	3	Amend	<p>Provides that a written application for a submarine ballot by a military or overseas voter may be submitted by mail, email, fax or other means identified by the Secretary of State by rule.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>








# ORS Chapter 254

## Conduct of Elections





ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
254	SB 861	2	Add	<p>Requires the ballot return identification envelope provided to voters be returnable by business reply mail.</p> <p>Allows the Secretary of State to require a method other than business reply mail if the secretary determines other method is more cost effective and efficient.</p> <p>Specifies the mailing fee for a return identification envelope returned by USPS will be paid by the state.</p> <p>Applies to elections held on or after January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
254	SB 944	2	Add	<p>Permits county clerk to decide whether to conduct hand count of ballots or risk-limiting audit following each primary, general or special election.</p> <p>Establishes requirements for risk-limiting audit. Requires that records relating to risk-limiting audit or hand count of ballots be retained for two years.</p> <p>Directs Secretary of State, in consultation with county clerks and statistical expert, to establish rules for conducting a risk-limiting audit.</p> <p>Applies to primary, general and special elections held on or after September 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
254.155	SB 224	8	Amend	<p>Specifies that the requirement for the Secretary of State to create and distribute the random alphabet used to order candidate names on the ballot only applies if there is at least one contested candidate race on the ballot.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
254.408	SB 670	4	Amend	<p>Prohibits name of Secretary of State, county clerk, or other filing officer from appearing in their official capacity on provisional ballot materials including return identification envelopes, secrecy envelopes, or any instructions or materials included with ballot, if the Secretary, clerk, or officer is a candidate in the election.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>

## ORS Chapter 254 (cont.)




ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
254.458	SB 670	5	Amend	<p>Requires alternate envelope procedures approved by the Secretary of State to comply with the prohibition set forth in ORS 254.470(11).</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
254.470	SB 861	3	Amend	<p>Deletes requirement for elector to provide postage if returning ballot by mail.</p> <p>Applies to elections held on or after January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
254.470	SB 670	3	Amend	<p>Prohibits name of Secretary of State, county clerk, or other filing officer from appearing in their official capacity on return identification envelopes, secrecy envelopes, or any instructions or materials included with ballot, if the Secretary, clerk, or officer is a candidate in the election.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
254.529	SB 944	3	Amend	<p>Permits county clerk to decide whether to conduct hand count of ballots or risk-limiting audit following each primary, general or special election.</p> <p>Changes who the Secretary must notify of contests and precincts or batches selected for hand count to only those county clerks who made a determination to conduct a hand count.</p> <p>Applies to primary, general and special elections held on or after September 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
254.535	SB 944	4	Amend	<p>Requires that records relating to risk-limiting audit or hand count of ballots be retained for two years.</p> <p>Applies to primary, general and special elections held on or after September 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>

# ORS Chapter 255

## Special District Elections



ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
255	HB 3310	2 – 6	New	<p>Prohibits qualifying district election from impairing members of protected class from having equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice, or equal opportunity to influence outcome of election, as result of dilution or abridgment of rights of members of protected class.</p> <p>Defines qualifying district as school districts, education service districts, and community college districts.</p> <p>Creates process for district board, in consultation with county clerk, to change electoral system or for qualified individual to bring action in court alleging polarized voting. Includes remedy.</p> <p>Requires Secretary of State to include information in any manuals that provide a summary of all election law in this state and in any other appropriate publications.</p> <p>Directs Secretary of State to develop and make publicly available on the Secretary's website a guide describing the process for a voter to bring an action alleging polarized voting in a qualifying district and the options available to a the board.</p> <p>Becomes operative January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
255	HB 3310	41 – 44	Amend	<p>Incorporates, as exceptions, sections 2 to 6 of HB 3310 into ORS 255.055, 255.245, 255.325 and 255.335.</p> <p>Becomes operative January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
255.012	SB 224	10	Amend	<p>Includes community college and 911 communication districts in the definition of districts which are subject to the provisions of Oregon election law.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
255.012	SB 355	38	Amend	<p>Corrects statutory reference of soil and water conservation district.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>

## ORS Chapter 255 (cont.)





ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
255.012	SB 431	31	Amend	<p>Adds urban flood safety and water quality district to definition of districts which are subject to the provisions of Oregon election law.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
255.235	HB 3310	9	Amend	<p>Requires nominating petition templates or declaration of candidacy to district election boards to provide the option for the candidate to disclose the candidate's race and ethnicity.</p> <p>Becomes operative January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
255.305	HB 3365	7	Amend	<p>Deletes livestock district from list of districts exempt from paying for the expense incurred to hold an election.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>

# ORS Chapter 260






## Campaign Finance Regulation; Election Offences

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
260	HB 2488	2 & 3	Add	<p>Prohibits a person from making a contribution to a political candidate, a political committee or a petition committee using cryptocurrency.</p> <p>Defines cryptocurrency.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
260	HB 2716	2	Add	<p>Requires communication in support of or opposition to candidate by a political or petition committee to state name of person who paid for communication and include donor information in specified circumstances. Allows digital communication to include link to active website with required information.</p> <p>Exempts communications in support of federal candidates, candidates, petition committees, political committees and independent expenditure filers who are not required to use ORESTAR.</p> <p>Excludes from the definition of expenditure items of de minimis value including lawn signs, pins, pens, wearable merchandise, skywriting, and other items the Secretary of State determines by rule are too small to contain the required information.</p> <p>Requires person who makes communication to consider anonymous donation from single person in excess of \$1,000 as donation that may not be used to make communication.</p> <p>Provides minimum standards and authorizes Secretary to adopt by rule the format of required statement.</p> <p>Defines "Clearly identified", "Communication in support of or in opposition to a clearly identified candidate or measure", "Donation", "Election cycle" and "Local provision".</p> <p>Exempts newspaper editorials, printed advertisements or communications made by phone with fair market value of less than \$500 from definition of "Communication".</p> <p>Includes severability clause.</p> <p> Effective December 3, 2020</p>




## ORS Chapter 260 (cont.)

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
260	HB 2983	1 – 4	Add	<p>Requires covered organizations that make political expenditures in excess of specified amount to file with Secretary of State donor identification list that identifies donors that made donations above \$10,000 during election cycle to covered organization. Requires covered organization to update list throughout election cycle.</p> <p>Permits covered organization to exclude from donor list donations from specified charitable organizations and donations and grants received from foundations and other donors that may not be used for political communications.</p> <p>Establishes procedures for certain election-related investigations.</p> <p>Allows for civil penalty for failure to comply with covered organization disclosure requirements.</p> <p> Effective August 2, 2019</p>
260	SB 478	5	Add	<p>Defines "consideration in connection with a nondisclosure agreement" as any form of consideration provided in exchange for the silence of another. Includes money, stock, or personal property, severance pay or benefits, the promise of a positive reference or assistance in obtaining future employment in public employment, alternative work arrangements, and any termination agreement that includes a waiver of past or future claims against the public official, public body, or public employee.</p> <p> Effective June 20, 2019</p>
260.005	HB 2983	7	Amend	<p>Modifies definition of "Communication in support of or in opposition to a clearly identified candidate or measure" and expands relevant communication period from 30 days before primary election and 60 days before general election to 60 days before primary election, 120 days before general election and 90 days before any other election.</p> <p> Effective August 2, 2019</p>
260.044	HB 2983	8	Amend	<p>Reduces amount of independent expenditure requiring disclosure in ORESTAR from \$750 to \$250 in a calendar year.</p> <p> Effective August 2, 2019</p>

## ORS Chapter 260 (cont.)






ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
260.055	HB 2983	9	Amend	<p>Reduces amount of independent expenditure requiring the maintenance of detailed accounts from \$750 to \$250 in a calendar year.</p> <p> Effective August 2, 2019</p>
260.218	HB 2983	6	Amend	<p>Allows the Attorney General to issue subpoenas under ORS 260.345 to compel the production of records.</p> <p> Effective August 2, 2019</p>
260.402	HB 2983	5	Amend	<p>Prohibits reimbursing another for providing campaign contribution or donation to organizations subject to disclosure requirements.</p> <p>Regulates covered organization acceptance and use of anonymous donations.</p> <p>Prohibits anonymous donations as defined in section 2 of HB 2983.</p> <p> Effective August 2, 2019</p>
260.407	SB 478	1	Amend	<p>Prohibits campaign moneys from being used to make payments in connection with nondisclosure agreement relating to workplace harassment.</p> <p>Declares void and unenforceable any nondisclosure agreement entered into with use of prohibited moneys.</p> <p> Effective June 20, 2019</p>
260.432	SB 731	1	Amend	<p>Allows a recognized student government of a community college or public university to make a statement or issue a resolution to promote or oppose the adoption of a measure or the gathering of signatures on an initiative or referendum petition. Also applicable to a member of the recognized student government while acting as a member.</p> <p>Permits public employees and board members of a community college or public university to take any action necessary to allow the recognized student governments or member of recognized student government to make the statement or issue the resolution.</p> <p>Provides the use of student fees to assist with making the statement or issuing the resolution. Prohibits the use of student fees or public funds for other political activities.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>

## ORS Chapter 260 (cont.)







ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
260.665	SB 861	4	Amend	Adds business reply ballot return identification envelopes to list of undue influence exemptions.  Effective September 29, 2019
260.995	HB 2716	3	Amend	Allows Secretary of State or Attorney General to impose civil penalty up to 150 percent of cost of making communication, when disclosure requirements are not met. Includes severability clause.  Effective December 3, 2020
260.995	SB 478	6	Amend	Allows civil penalty of up to two times the amount of the penalty provision for violating the NDA.  Effective June 20, 2019






## Statutes outside Election Law

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
Unknown	SB 431	1 – 26	Add	<p>Creates urban flood safety and water quality district in portion of Multnomah County within urban growth boundary adopted by Metro, for purposes of acquiring, purchasing, constructing, improving, operating and maintaining infrastructure in order to provide for flood safety and contribute to water quality, floodplain restoration and habitat and landscape resilience.</p> <p>Provides for selection of board of directors. Sets forth powers and duties of district and district board. Authorizes district board to impose charges, assessments and taxes and issue bonds.</p> <p>Authorizes district board to dissolve certain drainage districts and water improvement corporations. Requires urban flood safety and water quality district to assume dissolved entity's duties, assets and liabilities.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
Unknown	SB 933	1 & 2	Add	<p>Requires that a form or document issued by a public body that asks for race or ethnicity to allow the selection of multiple races or ethnicities.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
Oregon Vehicle Code	HB 2592	5 & 6	Add	<p>Authorizes Metro to impose vehicle registration fee, if approved by voters by December 31, 2022, separate from other local government registration fees.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
3.012	HB 2377	18a	Amend	<p>Establishes two new statutory judgeships, one in the 1<sup>st</sup> judicial district (Jackson County) and another in the 3<sup>rd</sup> judicial district (Marion County).</p> <p> Effective August 9, 2019</p>
3.041	SB 977	3	Amend	<p>Allows circuit court judges to be elected or appointed to a judicial district if the judge is a resident or has a principal office in a judicial district adjacent to the district the judge is elected or appointed to.</p> <p> Effective June 17, 2019</p>



## Statutes outside Election Law (cont.)

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
51.020	SB 977	2	Amend	Includes Crook County in list of counties that may include a portion of a city that is a county seat or a city in which a circuit court regularly holds court within a justice of the peace district.  Effective June 17, 2019
171.062	SB 224	9	Amend	Clarifies date used to calculate the proportion of votes each county is entitled to if a vacancy in a legislative district located in more than one county occurs. The calculation will either use the number of voters registered on the date the office becomes vacant or when the resignation becomes binding whichever occurs first.  Effective September 29, 2019
174.116	SB 431	27	Amend	Adds urban flood safety and water quality district to "local service district" definition.  Effective January 1, 2020
192.345	HB 2321	1	Amend	Prohibits a public body that is the custodian of records containing the home address and telephone number of a county juvenile department employee charged with and primarily performs duties related to the custody, control or supervision of youth offenders confined in a detention facility, as defined in ORS 419A.004 from disclosing the above information in response to a request to inspect public records.  Effective September 29, 2019
192.407	HB 2353	1	Amend	Authorizes the Attorney General, the district attorney, or court to require a public body to pay a \$200 penalty to a person who requested public records upon determining that the public body failed to respond to the request or responded to the request with undue delay. Allows the Attorney General, the district attorney, or court granting a petition filed under this section to provide for a fee waiver or fee reduction in the order granting the petition.  Effective June 4, 2019
192.630	SB 288	1	Amend	Adds special districts to list of public bodies that may hold public meetings within Indian country.  Effective January 1, 2020






## Statutes outside Election Law (cont.)

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
198	SB 294	2	Add	<p>Authorizes annexation of land to pioneer cemetery maintenance district in rural county and outside urban growth boundary upon petition by owner and endorsement of governing body of district.</p> <p>Requires board of affected county to approve district's petition if specified requirements are met and to file boundary change with county assessor and Department of Revenue.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
198.010, 198.310, 198.510	SB 431	28 – 30	Amend	<p>Adds urban flood safety and water quality district to "district" definition.</p> <p>Modifies statutory references to incorporate revised definition of "district".</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
221	SB 226	1 – 5	Add	<p>Deems city to be disincorporated upon determination by Secretary of State that election on question of disincorporation meets specified criteria.</p> <p>Provides that Legislative Assembly may refer question of disincorporation to people of city to vote on at the next primary election. Disincorporation referral may be approved if majority of voters voting on question vote for disincorporation. Any differences between disincorporation referral and applicable election laws to be resolved in favor of the referral. Any other Act requiring action on condition of approval of the disincorporation referral becomes effective on date voters approve measure. Applies retroactively.</p> <p>Effectively declares legislative intent to cure any defect in Damascus disincorporation election held at the 2016 Primary Election.</p> <p>Provides for expedited review of Act to Oregon Supreme Court to determine validity of Act under laws of this state and United States and Oregon Constitutions.</p> <p> Effective July 15, 2019</p>



## Statutes outside Election Law (cont.)

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
222.750	HB 2577	1 & 2	Amend	<p>Requires a city to provide a delayed effective date that is at least three years and not more than 10 years after the date of annexation approval for property that is zoned to allow residential use as a permitted use in the zone and is in residential use.</p> <p>Provides that property subject to delayed annexation becomes a part of the city immediately upon transfer of ownership.</p> <p>Allows a property owner within the territory to be annexed to waive the delayed annexation effective date.</p> <p> Effective May 30, 2019</p>
222.750	SB 92	3	Amend	<p>Allows, for purposes of "island annexation," the corporate boundaries of another city to constitute part of the boundary of the territory to be annexed.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
244	SB 478	3	Add	<p>Prohibits public moneys from being used to make payments in connection with nondisclosure agreement relating to workplace harassment.</p> <p>Prohibits holder of public office or candidate from using moneys received from third parties to make payments in connection with nondisclosure agreement relating to workplace harassment, if alleged harassment occurred when holder of public office was acting as holder of public office.</p> <p>Declares void and unenforceable any nondisclosure agreement entered into with use of prohibited moneys.</p> <p>Defines "payments in connection with a nondisclosure agreement" as any form of consideration provided in exchange for the silence of another. Includes money, stock, or personal property, severance pay or benefits, the promise of a positive reference or assistance in obtaining future employment in public employment, alternative work arrangements, and any termination agreement that includes a waiver of past or future claims against the public official, public body, or public employee.</p> <p> Effective June 20, 2019</p>


## Statutes outside Election Law (cont.)

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
244.350	SB 478	7	Amend	<p>Allows civil penalty of up to two times the amount of the penalty provision for violating the NDA.</p> <p> Effective June 20, 2019</p>
332	HB 3310	10 – 17 & 29 – 31	Amend	<p>Incorporates, as exceptions, sections 2 to 6 of HB 3310 into ORS 332.012, 332.018, 332.030, 332.118, 332.122, 332.124, 332.126, 332.128, 332.132, 332.134, and 332.138.</p> <p>Becomes operative January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
334	HB 3310	18 – 23 & 32 – 36	Amend	<p>Incorporates, as exceptions, sections 2 to 6 of HB 3310 into ORS 334.025, 334.032, 334.035, 334.045, 334.090, 334.095, 334.690, 334.710, 334.730, 334.740 and 334.750.</p> <p>Becomes operative January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
341	HB 3310	24 – 28 & 37 – 40	Amend	<p>Incorporates, as exceptions, sections 2 to 6 of HB 3310 into ORS 341.125, 341.175, 341.185, 341.326, 341.327, 341.331, 341.356, 341.356, 341.357 and 341.577.</p> <p>Becomes operative January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>
354.625, 354.655, 354.690	SB 393	1 – 3	Amend	<p>Authorizes translator districts to annex cities where cable television corporations operate or have ceased operations and city electors approve annexation. States that a translator district may not submit annexation question to electors until after December 31, 2020.</p> <p>Permits translator district service fee payers to serve on district board.</p> <p>Exempts property owned by State of Oregon from district service charges.</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>

## Statutes outside Election Law (cont.)

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
607.005 – 607.045	HB 3365	2 – 6 & 8 – 10	Add	<p>Repeals statutes governing the creation and dissolution of a livestock district (ORS 607.010, 607.012, 607.013, 607.020, 607.025, 607.040, 607.042 and 607.043).</p> <p>Establishes a replacement process. A landowner who desires to create, annex property to, withdraw area from, or dissolve a livestock district may apply to the county governing body. Application is filed with the county clerk.</p> <p>Adopts application and notification requirements.</p> <p>Provides any petition regarding a livestock district that is pending on the effective date of HB 3365 is to be processed under 607.012, 607.013, 607.015, 607.020, 607.025, 607.040, 607.042 and 607.043 (2017 Edition).</p> <p> Effective January 1, 2020</p>
545.163	SB 861	5	Amend	<p>Deletes requirement for elector to provide postage if returning ballot by mail.</p> <p>Applies to elections held on or after January 1, 2020.</p> <p> Effective September 29, 2019</p>

## Special Legislation

Bill No.	Section	Synopsis
SB 870	All	<p>Enacts Interstate Compact for Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote.</p> <p> Effective once the total number of member state's electoral votes equal or exceed the necessary number to elect the President of the United States.</p>

# Measures

## November 3, 2020, General Election

Type	Subject
Referral 401	SJR 18 – Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to permit Legislative Assembly, governing body of city, county, municipality or district, or people through initiative process, to enact limits on political contributions, require disclosure of contribution and expenditures and the identification of the persons or entities that paid for an advertisement made in connection with a political campaign.
Referral 402	HB 2270 – Increases cigarette and tobacco products taxes and adds inhalant delivery system to definition of tobacco product. Allocates additional funds to state’s medical assistance program and various programs addressing tobacco and nicotine use related health and mental health issues.
Related Legislation	SB 116 – Provides alternative ballot title, explanatory statement and fiscal impact processes. Creates legislative committee to prepare ballot title and explanatory statements. Exempts ballot title from word limits imposed by ORS 250.035 (2). Authorizes Supreme Court review of ballot title and explanatory statement. Allows Court to modify title or refer to Attorney General. Requires Secretary of State to set deadlines by administrative rule.