



## PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

**ELECT 3-2026**  
CHAPTER 165  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**  
**ELECTIONS DIVISION**

**FILED**  
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& LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

FILING CAPTION: Implements Legislative Changes and Establishes Other County Voters' Pamphlet Filing Requirements

EFFECTIVE DATE: 02/11/2026

AGENCY APPROVED DATE: 02/09/2026

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AMEND: 165-022-0010

RULE TITLE: Filing Officer and Schedule for Filing Explanatory Statements, Measure Arguments and Candidate Statements

NOTICE FILED DATE: 10/31/2025

RULE SUMMARY: This rule implements SB 578 (2025). The rule sets deadlines for: candidates (or their agents) to file candidate statements and photographs with the county elections official for any election other than a primary or general; filing of measure arguments; filing of explanatory statements. This rule also establishes the filing officer and certification requirement for explanatory statements and is re-organized for clarity.

RULE TEXT:

(1) Any county, for any election, may choose to produce a county voters' pamphlet. This rule applies to any county which produces a voters' pamphlet. The purpose of this rule is to:

- (a) Establish the filing officer for an explanatory statement required to be filed under ORS 251.345;
- (b) Establish the schedule for the explanatory statement to be filed and certified to any other county in which the district or city is located;
- (c) Establish the measure argument filing deadline for all elections; and
- (d) Establish the deadline to submit candidate statement and portrait for inclusion in any election which is not a primary or general election.

(2)(a) When a county chooses to produce a county voters' pamphlet, the county clerk is the filing officer for:

- (A) County, city, or special district candidates submitting candidate statements and portraits for inclusion in county voters' pamphlets; and
- (B) Measure arguments for or against a county, city, or special district measure.

(b) If a city or special district is located in more than one county, candidate statements and portraits, and measure arguments for or against the measure must be filed with each county producing a voters' pamphlet for inclusion in each county's voters' pamphlet.

(3)(a) When a county chooses to produce a county voters' pamphlet, notices of measure election for a referral by the applicable governing body and an accompanying explanatory statement must be filed with the county clerk of the

county in which the city hall of the city or the administrative office of the county, city, or special district is located.

(b) The deadline to file a notice of measure election and an accompanying explanatory statement is 5:00 p.m. on the applicable deadline provided in ORS 254.095, ORS 254.103, or ORS 255.085.

(c) The county clerk for the county in which the notice of measure election and explanatory statement is filed shall forward the notice and explanatory statement to the county clerk of any other county in which the district or city is located.

(4)(a) ORS 251.335(3)(a) and (b) set forth the deadline by which a candidate or the candidate's agent may file a candidate statement and portrait for inclusion in primary and general election county voters' pamphlets.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) and (d) of this section, the deadline for a candidate to file a candidate statement and portrait for inclusion in a county voters' pamphlet is not later than 5:00 p.m. on the 60th day before the election.

(c) When an election to fill a vacancy is held on the same date as a primary or general election, the deadline for a candidate to file a candidate statement and portrait for inclusion in a county voters' pamphlet is not later than the dates specified in ORS 251.335(3)(a) or (b).

(d) When a vacancy occurs and the deadline for the candidate to file a declaration of candidacy or nominating petition is after the 61st day before the election, the deadline for a candidate to file a candidate statement and portrait for inclusion in a county voters' pamphlet is not later than the deadline for the candidate to file a declaration of candidacy or nominating petition.

(e) For candidates on any election ballot whose names are certified to a subsequent runoff election ballot for the same office, and where the voters' pamphlet filing deadline for the subsequent runoff election falls on or before the date of the first election, the deadline for a candidate to file a candidate statement and portrait for inclusion in a county voters' pamphlet for the subsequent runoff election is not later than 5 p.m. on the second business day after the first election.

(5) The deadline to file an argument for or against a measure for inclusion in the county voters' pamphlet is not later than 5 p.m. on the second business day after the deadline for filing a notice of measure election.

(6) The deadline to file any statements of endorsement for a candidate statement or measure argument is the same date as the deadline for filing the applicable candidate statement or measure argument.

(7) Filings become disclosable according to the following schedule:

(a) Explanatory statements become disclosable upon filing;

(b) The text of all candidate statements shall become disclosable on the fourth business day after the filing deadline;

(c) The text of all measure arguments shall become disclosable on the fourth business day after the filing deadline.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 246.150, ORS 251.325, ORS 251.335, SB 578 (2025)

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 246.150, ORS 251.305, ORS 251.325, ORS 251.335, SB 578 (2025), ORS 251.355