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## PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

**ELECT 1-2026**  
**CHAPTER 165**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**  
**ELECTIONS DIVISION**

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EFFECTIVE DATE: 01/19/2026

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AMEND: 165-016-0000

REPEAL: Temporary 165-016-0000 from ELECT 5-2025

RULE TITLE: Designating the State Voters' Pamphlet Manual and Forms

NOTICE FILED DATE: 11/14/2025

RULE SUMMARY: Changes to this rule and the associated manual and forms implement SB 1538 (2024), SB 1533 (2024), and SB 1014 (2025).

SB 1538 allows candidates and measure argument filers to submit statements translated into the most commonly spoken languages in the counties the office represents or in which the measure will be voted on instead of only the most commonly spoken languages in the state.

SB 1533 expands the eligible languages of translation for a candidate statement or measure argument filing from the 5 most commonly spoken languages in the state to the 10 most commonly spoken languages in the state for State Voters' Pamphlet.

SB 1014 requires the Secretary of State to accept translations of political party statement of arguments filed under ORS 251.115 in the five most commonly spoken languages in this state, other than English.

Additional changes are throughout the manuals to update filing deadlines and provide clarity for the various processes related to State Voters' Pamphlet filings. Discontinues previous process to allow filing of political party and assembly of electors statements in primary elections.

### RULE TEXT:

The Secretary of State designates the State Voters' Pamphlet Manual, revised 1/2026 and associated forms as the procedures and forms to be used to submit candidate statements, measure arguments, statements of arguments by any political party or assembly of electors, arguments in support of a legislative referral, and filer submitted translations allowed by statute, explanatory statements, financial estimates and statements, statements prepared by the Legislative

Counsel Committee under ORS 251.225, and a community college district measure relating to bonding, a county measure, or a metropolitan service district measure submitted under ORS 251.285.


STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 246.150, 251.014, 251.065, 251.075, 251.255, 251.087, 251.115, 251.095, 251.167, 251.170, 251.012, 251.055, SB 1014 (2025)

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: 251.065, 251.075, 251.255, 251.046, 251.085, 251.087, 251.115, 251.285, 251.095, 251.167, 251.170, 251.185, 251.026, SB 1538 (2024), SB 1533 (2024), SB 1014 (2025)

# State Voters' Pamphlet Manual

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## Secretary of State

Elections Division Rev. 01/2026

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## Using This Manual

This manual explains how to file a statement or argument in the State Voters' Pamphlet and how to submit a translated statement or argument for the abbreviated online, translated State Voters' Pamphlet. Also included is the process the Elections Division uses to make corrections to or reject statements and arguments that do not meet requirements.

## Icons

In this manual the following icons highlight information:

**alert icon**

indicates alert; warning; attention needed

**deadline icon**

indicates a deadline

**example icon**

indicates a detailed example of a concept, process or form

**form icon**

indicates a reference to a form

**info icon**

indicates other information

**petition sheet icon**

indicates a reference to a signature sheet

**search icon**

indicates information found elsewhere


## Help

If you have any questions about the material covered in this manual or need further help, please contact:

Elections Division  
255 Capitol St. NE, Suite 126  
Salem, OR 97310

 **503 986 1518**  
**fax 503 373 7414**

 **[elections.sos@sos.oregon.gov](mailto:elections.sos@sos.oregon.gov)**  
 **[www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov)**

 **1 866 673 8683**  
se habla español

Translations  
**[tac.info@sos.oregon.gov](mailto:tac.info@sos.oregon.gov)**

**TTY1 800 735 2900**  
for the hearing impaired

# Filing Requirements for State Voters' Pamphlet

Statements and arguments are due no later than 5:00:00 pm on the deadline listed below. All signatures must be of active registered voters within the district. *ORS 251.095*

			Primary Election	General Election
<b>First Day to File Prospective Petition</b>			September 11, 2025	June 3, 2026
<b>First Day to File by Fee or Completed Petition</b>			January 19, 2026	July 6, 2026
<b>Last Day to File by Fee or Completed Petition</b>			March 12, 2026	August 25, 2026
<b>Last Day to Withdraw</b>			March 12, 2026	August 25, 2026
<b>Last Day to Submit Signatures for Guaranteed Verification</b>			February 26, 2026	August 11, 2026
If 100% of the required signatures are submitted by the Guaranteed Verification Deadline, the elections official will verify signatures so they can be used as payment. Signatures filed after this date may not be verified by the filing deadline and the filer would be required to pay the fee instead.				
<b>Statements Become Public</b>			March 18, 2026	August 31, 2026
Voters’ pamphlet records are exempt from public disclosure until the 4th business day after the filing deadline.				
Candidate Statement	Fee	Word Count	Required Signatures	Verification of Signatures
President or Vice President	\$3500	325	500	Elections Division
US Senator or Statewide Office	\$3000	325	500	Elections Division
US Representative	\$2500	325	300	Elections Division
State Senator or Representative	\$750	325	200	Elections Division
Circuit Court Judge, District Attorney or County Judge	\$600	325	200	Elections Division
County Office	\$600	325	200	County Elections Official
City Office	\$600	325	200	County Elections Official
Metropolitan Service District Office	\$600	325	200	County Elections Official
Each statement listed above, including any portrait, must fit within one column of voters’ pamphlet space.				
Measure Argument	Fee	Word Count	Required Signatures	Verification of Signatures
State Measure	\$1200	325	500	Elections Division
<b>County Measure</b> May only appear in the State Voters’ Pamphlet in specific circumstances.				
See <a href="#">page 18</a> for complete explanation.	Contact county	325	Contact county	County Elections Official
<b>Community College District Measure Relating to Bonding</b> May only appear in the state voters’ pamphlet in specific circumstances.				
See <a href="#">page 18</a> for complete explanation.	Contact county	325	Contact county	County Elections Official
The length of an argument may not exceed the equivalent of one column of voters’ pamphlet space, even if it spans columns or pages.				
Other Statements	Fee	Word Count	Required Signatures	Verification of Signatures
Statewide Political Party	\$1200	650	500	Elections Division
Less than Statewide Political Party	\$600	325	300	Elections Division
Statewide Assembly of Electors	\$1200	650	500	Elections Division
Less than Statewide Assembly of Electors	\$600	325	300	Elections Division
Citizen Initiative Review Statement	Actual cost	250	N/A	N/A
The length of any Statement by Statewide Political Party, Statewide Assembly of Electors or Citizen Initiative Review Statement may not exceed one page of voters’ pamphlet space. Statements by any less than Statewide Political Party or Assembly of Electors may not exceed the equivalent of one column of voters’ pamphlet space, even if it spans columns or pages. There is no cost for printing a Statewide Political Party or Less than Statewide Political Party Statement in the Primary Election Voters' Pamphlet.				

## Guidelines and Requirements

*ORS 251.026, 251.167, 251.049 and 251.170*

The Elections Division publishes a State Voters' Pamphlet for each Primary and General Election, as well as for any statewide special election. One copy is mailed to every household in the state. The Division also produces an abbreviated online, translated pamphlet in the state's **most commonly spoken languages** for these elections.

County Elections Officials may also produce a voters' pamphlet containing information about local candidates and measures. Eligibility of local elected officials to appear in the State Voters' Pamphlet is determined by whether a county produces a voters' pamphlet. Contact your county election official for information as to whether the county is publishing a voters' pamphlet for a given election.



View a list of **County Elections Offices** at [www.oregonvotes.gov/counties](http://www.oregonvotes.gov/counties).

The Voters' Pamphlet includes information about candidates, measures, recognized political parties and any assemblies of electors. It also includes instructions for marking the ballot, a complete list of federal and state candidates and other information on the voting process.

## ORESTAR

*ORS 251.014*

Oregon election law requires all State Voters' Pamphlet statements, arguments and translations to be filed electronically.



ORESTAR is a secure web-based electronic reporting system for State Voters' Pamphlet filings.

A filer must register in ORESTAR by creating a user account before submitting a voters' pamphlet statement or argument. For further detail on how to file a voters' pamphlet filing using ORESTAR:



See the **ORESTAR User's Manual: Voters' Pamphlet Filing** available at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov).



The Elections Division will reject any statement not filed electronically in ORESTAR.

### Designated Filer for Specified Committees

The following committees and groups must supply written notification to the Elections Division of the ORESTAR account username, first and last name and contact information for the person chosen to file the statements or arguments electronically:



Notification of designated filers must be delivered to the Elections Division, to **ORESTAR-support.sos@sos.oregon.gov**, no later than 10 business days prior to any filing deadline. Designated filer and filing deadlines are included in this manual under the section for each filing type.

- Legislative Committee responsible for drafting argument in support of legislative referral;
- Explanatory Statement Committee;
- Legislative Counsel Committee;
- Financial Estimate Committee;
- Political Parties;
- Assembly of Electors;
- Citizens' Initiative Review Commission; and
- Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.



# Translated Submissions

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*ORS 251.026, 251.167 and 251.170*

## Translated State Voters' Pamphlet

The Elections Division prepares an abbreviated online, translated pamphlet. It includes translated non-partisan voting information and ballot measures in the most commonly spoken languages of the state. In addition, candidates running for federal or statewide offices, filers of state measure arguments, and political parties may submit their *own* professional translations of their English submission, as part of the filing.

Submitted translations must be consistent with the meaning the original English version as required by ORS 251.170(4)(a). The Division highly recommends that filers work with professional translators and provide them with the translated [Secretary of State Election Glossaries](#). Poor quality translations may influence voters' perceptions of campaigns or confuse or offend voters.

### **Translations Best Practices**


- ✓ Machine translation is a tool for specific, limited use and is not suitable for voters' pamphlet submissions. The absence of the human editing process may result in errors.
- ✓ Bilingual people speak two languages fluently but may not have the specialized skills of professional translators to produce complex documents that read like native text and use correct grammar, syntax, style, terminology, and register.
- ✓ Professional translators have years of experience, relevant educational background, translation credentials, and work references. They also abide by professional standards and codes of conduct.
- ✓ Professional translators often promote their business through international professional associations like the [American Translators Association](#), [Oregon Society of Translators and Interpreters](#), and translation agencies.



# Statements of Endorsement

ORS 251.049

If the name of a person or organization is used in a statement or argument as supporting or endorsing the candidate or measure, the filer must either submit a completed and signed [SEL 400, Statement of Endorsement](#) form for each person or organization identified or include a publicly disseminated quote identified by source and date.


-  The Secretary of State may not print the name of an endorsing party or organization without written consent on the SEL 400 Form. Endorsements mentioned in a filing which are not accompanied by an SEL 400 form which is determined to be complete will be removed.

The Elections Division does not add endorsements to any statement or argument when an SEL 400, Statement of Endorsement form has been submitted.

## Form SEL 400 Statement of Endorsement

A Statement of Endorsement is completed and signed by the person or by an authorized person on behalf of an organization, consenting to the use of their name or the name of the organization they are speaking for. An organization's name should only be used if the organization is endorsing the argument or statement. A spokesperson for an organization may not list individual names of members of the organization without an accompanying [SEL 400](#) for each of those individuals. The form requires the following for completion:

- 1 the applicable election date;
  - A Statement of Endorsement is only valid for the election it is filed for.
- 2 the statement or argument filing type;
- 3 the name of the candidate, political party, assembly of electors or person who filed the argument; and
  - A Statement of Endorsement is only valid for the statement or argument it is filed for.
- 4 Endorsement information; select **Option 1** or **Option 2**.
  - **Option 1** allows the statement or argument filer to decide how a person's name, applicable title, name of the organization the person represents, if any, and other biographical information will appear in the statement or argument.
  - **Option 2** requires the statement or argument filer to reproduce the person's name, applicable title and name of the organization the person represents, if any, exactly as it appears on the completed and signed SEL 400.

-  A quote made by the person or by an authorized person on behalf of an organization does not have to be written on the SEL 400 or attached to the completed and signed form.

## Filing Statements of Endorsement

The recommended way to file Statements of Endorsements is to:

- 1 compile all Statement of Endorsement forms into a single PDF document;
- 2 name the scanned document with the statement or argument filer's last name; and
- 3 upload electronically using ORESTAR.



See the [ORESTAR User's Manual: Voters' Pamphlet Filing](#) available at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov).



Endorsements may also be emailed, hand delivered, mailed, or faxed to the Elections Division.




Forms are available online at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov).

## Publicly Disseminated Quote

The name of the person or organization with a quotation made by the person or by an authorized person on behalf of an organization may be included if the quote:

- ✓ has been publicly available prior to its inclusion in the statement or argument; and
- ✓ is identified by its source and date in the statement or argument.

 This includes, but is not limited to, appearing on a website.

## Formatting of Voters' Pamphlet Material

A statement or argument may only include:

- words and numbers (charts and graphics may not be used);
- numbered or bulleted lists on consecutive lines;
- italic, bold or underlined text;
- block quotes (function within the ORESTAR formatting tool);
- centered, left justified or right justified text; and
- a table to ensure two-column formatting



To avoid formatting issues when copying and pasting into ORESTAR, filers should use the text editor in ORESTAR to draft and format their statement or argument. The Elections Division will edit English statements or arguments that do not follow the requirements listed above.



Translations of English statements or arguments must be submitted in PDF file format in ORESTAR. Translations should maintain the English version's formatting.

The Elections Division may change required information that is filed in list format to a run-on format, using commas, semicolons and colons.

The Elections Division will apply standard formatting to all English State Voters' Pamphlet statements and arguments. Standard formatting includes:

- numbered and bulleted lists on consecutive lines, indented with hanging bullet or number;
- font size;
- smart quotation marks;
- vertical spacing between paragraphs;
- single spacing after punctuation and between words;
- plain text for candidate statement required information;
- URLs and email addresses will be underlined and changed to hyperlinks;
- first line indents, superscript, subscript, small caps, table borders and cell padding are not allowed and will be removed.



See [Standard Format Examples](#) applied to voters' pamphlet filings.



The Elections Division may make additional text or format changes to English submissions to comply with space and word count limitations or to facilitate the use of assistive technology. Word limitations and format changes do not apply to translated candidate statements and arguments. Statements and arguments will not be returned to filers for proofreading before or after the printing of the State Voters' Pamphlet.




## Types of Filings




### Candidate Statements

*ORS 251.046, 251.049, 251.055, 251.085, 251.087, 251.095 and 251.170*


Any federal or state candidate may file a statement for inclusion in the State Voters' Pamphlet and may also submit their *own* professional translations of their English statement for the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet. Candidates for county, city and metropolitan service district offices may only file for inclusion in the State Voters' Pamphlet if a county in the electoral district is not producing a voters' pamphlet.


-  Portions, or the entirety of candidate statements submitted for the printed State Voters' Pamphlet may be submitted in languages other than English. These statements are *not* translations and not subject to ORS 251.170(4)(a).

### Voters' Pamphlet Filed For Inclusion With:

	Elections Division	County Elections Official
Federal Candidate	Yes	No
State Candidate	Yes	No
County Candidate	No  Unless county is not producing a voters' pamphlet	Yes
City Candidate	No  Unless county is not producing a voters' pamphlet and the city has a population over 50,000	Yes
Metropolitan Service District Candidate	No  Unless county is not producing a voters' pamphlet	Yes

The Elections Division includes city or metropolitan service district candidate statements in each applicable county voters' pamphlet if that county is not producing a voters' pamphlet.

-  Contact the [county elections official](#) for information as to whether the county is publishing a voters' pamphlet and if so, how to be included.

-  Space in the State Voters' Pamphlet for city offices is limited to those cities with populations over 50,000. Those cities are Albany, Beaverton, Bend, Corvallis, Eugene, Gresham, Hillsboro, Medford, Portland, Salem, Springfield and Tigard. (*ORS 251.005(2)*)

Candidate statements appear in ballot order, separated by office type and position. For the primary election, statements are also separated by political party, if applicable. The order of political parties rotates every two years. Statements will be arranged in the following manner:


2026 Primary Election	2026 General Election
→ Democratic candidates by position in ballot order	→ partisan candidates by position in ballot order
→ Republican candidates by position in ballot order	→ nonpartisan candidates by position in ballot order
→ nonpartisan candidates by position in ballot order	


## Included Information

*ORS 251.085 and 251.075*

When published, each candidate's statement includes:


- candidate's name;
- candidate's photograph, if filed;
- office sought;
- party affiliation and party nominations, if applicable;
- **occupation (required);**
- **occupational background (required);**
- **educational background (required);**
- **prior governmental experience (required);** and
- candidate's reasons for seeking nomination or election and endorsements, if filed;

 Text submitted mentioning an endorsement must be accompanied by a Statement of Endorsement Form SEL 400 or a publicly disseminated quote identified by source and date. See [Statements of Endorsement](#) for more information.

 The information required by law—**pertaining to occupation, occupational background, educational background and prior governmental experience—is certified as true by the candidate**. False information claims submitted pertaining to occupation, occupational background, educational background and prior governmental experience may be investigated by the Elections Division under ORS 260.715(1). A remedy for providing false information is to file an action in circuit court under [ORS 260.532](#).

Each candidate statement must begin with the required information: Occupation, Occupational Background, Educational Background and Prior Governmental Experience. These informational headings must be part of the candidate's statement and count toward the word count.


The Elections Division may change required information that is filed in list format to a run-on format, using commas, semicolons and colons.


 All required information must be submitted or the statement may be rejected. See [Guidelines for Required Fields](#).

## Translated Candidate Statements

*ORS 251.167 and 251.170*

Any federal or statewide candidate may file their *own* professional translations of their English statement for the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet. The languages of translation include the ten most commonly spoken languages in Oregon or of any county the office represents. Submitted translations must be consistent with the meaning of the English version as required by ORS 251.170(4)(a).

Office	Languages of Translations	 Requirements
US President US Vice President  US Senator  Governor  Secretary of State  State Treasurer  Attorney General  Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries  Judge of the Supreme Court  Judge of the Court of Appeals  Judge of the Tax Court	Arabic, Chinese (Simplified & Traditional characters), Farsi, French, German, Lu Mien, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Marshallese, Nepali, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Ukrainian, Vietnamese	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Candidates or their agents will bear the cost of preparing professional translations of English statements.</li> <li>✓ Translations do not have a maximum word count.</li> <li>✓ Translated statements must be consistent with the meaning of the English version (ORS 251.170(4)(a)).</li> <li>✓ The Elections Division will add a disclaimer that the filer provided the translation.</li> <li>✓ Translations must be submitted via ORESTAR in PDF file format. Instructions are available in the <a href="#">ORESTAR User's Manual: Voters' Pamphlet Filing</a> available at <a href="http://www.oregonvotes.gov">www.oregonvotes.gov</a>.</li> <li>✓ Translation formatting must be identical to the English filing. The translation should <i>not</i> include the original English text.</li> </ul>
US Representative 1 <sup>st</sup> District	Arabic, Chinese (Simplified & Traditional characters), Farsi, German, Lu Mien, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Nepali, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Ukrainian, Vietnamese	

Office	Languages of Translations	 Requirements
US Representative 2 <sup>nd</sup> District	Arabic, Chinese (Simplified & Traditional characters, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Marshallese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Ukrainian, Vietnamese	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Candidates or their agents will bear the cost of preparing professional translations of English statements.</li> <li>✓ Translations do not have a maximum word count.</li> <li>✓ Translated statements must be consistent with the meaning of the English version (ORS 251.170(4)(a)).</li> <li>✓ The Elections Division will add a disclaimer that the filer provided the translation.</li> <li>✓ Translations must be submitted via ORESTAR in PDF file format. Instructions are available in the <a href="#">ORESTAR User's Manual: Voters' Pamphlet Filing</a> available at <a href="http://www.oregonvotes.gov">www.oregonvotes.gov</a>.</li> <li>✓ Translation formatting must be identical to the English filing. The translation should <i>not</i> include the original English text.</li> </ul>
US Representative 3 <sup>rd</sup> District	Arabic, Chinese (Simplified & Traditional characters), German, Iu Mien, Japanese, Korean, Nepali, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Ukrainian, Vietnamese	
US Representative 4 <sup>th</sup> District	Arabic, Chinese (Simplified & Traditional characters), German, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Vietnamese	
US Representative 5 <sup>th</sup> District	Arabic, Chinese (Simplified & Traditional characters), French, German, Iu Mien, Japanese, Korean, Marshallese, Nepali, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Ukrainian, Vietnamese	
US Representative 6 <sup>th</sup> District	Arabic, Chinese (Simplified & Traditional characters), Farsi, German, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Marshallese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Ukrainian, Vietnamese	



# Photograph Requirements

*ORS 251.075 and 250.087*

Candidates may include a photograph for publication with the candidate statement in the printed State Voters' Pamphlet. Candidate photos are not published in the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet. A candidate's photograph must be:

- filed electronically using ORESTAR in .png, .jpg, .gif or .bmp format;
- less than four years old when filed; and
- front-facing, showing the face, neck and shoulders only.


## Preferred Photograph Format


To ensure a candidate's photograph appears as preferred the photo should also be:


- 1.5" x 1.75" in size;
- portrait style; and
- black and white.

Photographs must not include:

- Hands or anything held in the hands of the candidate
- anything that is clearly identifiable in the background (this includes, but is not limited to, flags, backdrops, landscaping, paneling, wallpaper and signs); and
- the candidate wearing clothing or other symbol related to a profession or organization (this includes, but is not limited to, judicial robes, any type of uniform, lapel pins of a fraternal organization and hats).

 Expressions of faith on the candidate are not considered representative of a profession or an organization.

 Photographs which do not meet the above criteria may be rejected or cropped and digitally airbrushed with the cost billed to the candidate.

 Photographs will not be returned to the candidate or the candidate's campaign for review before or after printing of the voters' pamphlet. For more detailed information on filing candidate photos, see the [ORESTAR User Manual: Voters' Pamphlet Filing](#)



## Guidelines for Required Fields

*ORS 251.085 and ORS 260.715*

The following are guidelines to complete the required fields of occupation, occupational background, educational background and prior governmental experience. Any Information included in the statement must be true.



Making a false statement in these required fields is a violation of Oregon Election Law and the candidate may be convicted of a Class C Felony. ORS 260.715(1)

### Occupation and Occupational Background

- **Occupation (present employment – paid or unpaid):** The current full- or part-time employment or other line of work, business, craft, or professional information (not required to indicate whether paid or not paid).
- **Occupational Background (previous employment – paid or unpaid):** Previous full- or part-time employment or other line of work, business, craft, or professional information (not required to indicate whether paid or not paid).



If the candidate is not employed or has no relevant experience enter “Not Employed”, “None” or other equivalent.

### Educational Background

- **Educational Background (schools attended):** This may include schools attended by the candidate, including the last grade level completed, whether a diploma, degree, or certificate was received, and the course of study. It is not required that every educational experience be listed, but what is listed must be accurate. Use the complete name of any school; no acronyms.
- **Educational Background (other):** Other educational experiences of the candidate.



A degree indicates a college, university, or professional school has awarded a title upon the person for completion of a program of study. For this purpose, honorary degrees, or degrees from “degree mills” should not be included under this requirement.

### Prior Governmental Experience

- **Prior Governmental Experience (elected or appointed):** The current or previous governmental experience, which refers to a person’s involvement in governmental activities, such as appointed boards and commissions, elected boards, other elected or appointed public offices, or organizations that are recognized by a governmental body. Full- or part-time, paid or unpaid, or volunteer experience may be included (not required to indicate whether paid or unpaid). If the candidate has no prior governmental experience, enter ‘None’ or other equivalent.



It is not required that every occupational, educational or prior governmental experience be listed, but something must be entered in each field and what is entered must be accurate.



## Statement by Political Party or Assembly of Electors

*ORS 251.115, 251.167, and 251.170*

At the General Election, any political party or assembly of electors who has nominated candidates to the general election may file a Voters' Pamphlet statement. Political parties may submit their *own* professional translation of their English statement in the **five most commonly spoken languages** in Oregon for the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet. Submitted translations must be consistent with the meaning of the English version as required by ORS 251.170(4)(a).

Portions, or the entirety of said statements submitted for the printed State Voters' Pamphlet, may be submitted in languages other than English. These statements are not translations and not subject to ORS 251.170(4)(a).

### General Election Filing Process


- a current party officer must provide the Elections Division with the ORESTAR account username, first and last name and contact information for the person authorized to file the statement and translations, if any; and
- the designated filer must electronically file the statement using ORESTAR.

Statement by Political Party or Assembly of Electors	General Election
Deadline to Provide ORESTAR Username of Designated Filer	August 11, 2026
Deadline to File Statement in ORESTAR	August 25, 2026

## Translated Political Party Statements

*ORS 251.167 and 251.170*

Any political party or assembly of electors filer may submit their *own* professional translations of their English political party statement for the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet in the **five most commonly spoken languages** in Oregon as part of the English submission. Submitted translations must be consistent with the meaning of the English version as required by ORS 251.170(4)(a).

 <b>Political Party Translation Requirements</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The languages of translation include Chinese (Simplified and Traditional characters), Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese.</li> <li>✓ Political parties will bear the cost of preparing professional translations.</li> <li>✓ Translations do not have a maximum word count.</li> <li>✓ Translated statements must be consistent with the meaning of the English as required by ORS 251.170(4)(a).</li> <li>✓ The Elections Division will add a disclaimer that the filer provided the translation.</li> <li>✓ Translations must be submitted via ORESTAR in PDF file format. Instructions are available in the <a href="#">ORESTAR User's Manual: Voters' Pamphlet Filing</a> at <a href="http://www.oregonvotes.gov">www.oregonvotes.gov</a>.</li> <li>✓ Translation formatting must be identical to the English filing. Translations should <i>not</i> include the original English text.</li> </ul>

## Measure Arguments

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### *ORS 251.255 and 251.170*

A ballot measure argument is a statement supporting or opposing a measure on the ballot. Any person or organization may file an argument in favor of or in opposition to a state measure for inclusion in the State Voters' Pamphlet. Portions, or the entirety of said statements submitted for the printed State Voters' Pamphlet, may be submitted in languages other than English. These statements are not translations and not subject to ORS 251.170(4)(a).

Filers may also submit their *own* translations of their English argument for the abbreviated, online translated pamphlet. A measure argument and translation must be filed by the individual who will be listed as furnishing the information in the Voters' Pamphlet.

The Elections Division assigns a number to each argument filed in favor of or in opposition to a measure and uses it to randomly order all arguments filed for the measure within a category. Arguments in favor of a measure appear first, followed by arguments in opposition to the measure and are printed in the State Voters' Pamphlet in the randomly generated order.


- Text submitted mentioning an endorsement must be accompanied by a Statement of Endorsement Form SEL 400 or a publicly disseminated quote identified by source and date. See [Statements of Endorsement](#) for more information on this process.

 A random number generator program will be used to assign the order.

## Translated Measure Arguments

### ORS 251.167 and 251.170

Any argument filer may submit their *own* professional translations of their English argument for the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet. The languages of translation include the ten most commonly spoken languages in Oregon or of **any county** in which the measure will be voted on. Translated arguments must be consistent with the meaning of the English version as required by ORS 251.170(4)(a).

Jurisdiction	Languages of Translation	 Requirements
Statewide	Arabic, Chinese (Simplified & Traditional characters), Farsi, French, German, Lu Mien, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Marshallese, Nepali, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Ukrainian, Vietnamese	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Argument filers will bear the cost of preparing professional translations.</li> <li>✓ Translations do not have a maximum word count. Translated arguments must be consistent with the meaning of the English version as required by ORS 251.170(4)(a). The Elections Division will add a disclaimer that the filer provided the translation.</li> </ul>
A state measure that is less than statewide	Arabic, Chinese (Simplified & Traditional characters), German, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Ukrainian, Vietnamese <u>and</u> any of the <b>ten most commonly spoken languages in any county</b> which will vote on the measure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Translations must be submitted via ORESTAR in PDF file format. Instructions are available in the <a href="#">ORESTAR User's Manual: Voters' Pamphlet Filing</a> at <a href="http://www.oregonvotes.gov">www.oregonvotes.gov</a>.</li> <li>✓ Translation formatting must be identical to the English filing. Translation should <i>not</i> include the original English text.</li> </ul>

## Included Information

In addition to the arguments supporting or opposing a state measure the Elections Division includes the following information for each measure:

- ballot title; (translated) estimate of financial impact; (translated)
- explanation of the estimate of financial impact, if determined to be necessary by the committee; (translated)
- complete text of the proposed measure (not translated); and
- explanatory statement (translated).

# Ballot Title

ORS 250.035, 251.170

A ballot title of each state measure is prepared and printed in the State Voters' Pamphlet and included in the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet in the **most commonly spoken languages** in the state. A ballot title is a concise and impartial statement drafted by the Attorney General's office, or by the Legislative Assembly, summarizing the measure and consists of:

- a caption of not more than 15 words that reasonably identifies the subject matter of the measure;
- a simple and understandable statement of not more than 25 words that describes the result if the measure is approved;
- a simple and understandable statement of not more than 25 words that describes the result if the measure is rejected; and
- a concise and impartial statement of not more than 125 words summarizing the measure and its major effect.

# Financial Impact Statement


ORS 250.125, 251.185, 251.167, and 251.170

An estimate of the financial impact of each state measure is prepared and printed in the State Voters' Pamphlet and included in the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet in the **most commonly spoken languages** in the state. The estimate is prepared by the Financial Estimate Committee, which consists of the Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Director of the Department of Administrative Services, Director of the Department of Revenue and a representative of a city, county or district with expertise in local government finance chosen by the other four committee members.

Financial Impact Statement	Primary Election	General Election
Deadline to Provide ORESTAR Username of Designated Filer	January 26, 2026	July 13, 2026
Deadline to File Financial Estimate	February 9, 2026	July 27, 2026
Deadline to File Revised Financial Estimate	February 18, 2026	August 5, 2026
Deadline for Secretary of State to File Financial Estimate if Committee Does Not	February 20, 2026	August 7, 2026
Deadline to File Petition to Review Financial Estimate Procedures	February 23, 2026	August 10, 2026

The financial estimate and any explanation of the estimate must be filed electronically using ORESTAR. The committee must choose a person to file the estimate or statement and provide the Elections Division with the ORESTAR account username, first and last name and contact information for that person.

The committee estimates the financial impact of a state measure on state and local government revenue and expenditures and files the statement electronically using ORESTAR.






 Financial estimates must be impartial, simple, and understandable and include:

- the amount, if any, of financial effect on state, local or tribal government expenditures, revenues or indebtedness (with specific amounts or ranges of amounts);
- any such recurring annual amounts; and
- a description of the most likely financial effects if the measure passes and (optionally) if it does not pass.
- If the estimated financial effect is \$100,000 or less, the committee must file a statement that declares that determination.

An impartial, simple and understandable statement explaining the financial effects of the measure, not to exceed 500 words, may also be prepared. This explanation of the estimate is only printed in the State Voters' Pamphlet and not on the ballot.

- 1 The committee consults the Legislative Revenue Officer (LRO) to decide if the measure has potentially significant indirect economic or fiscal effects which can be estimated. The Committee must incorporate relevant information prepared by the LRO to estimate any potentially significant indirect economic or fiscal effects.
- 2 The committee considers the suggested changes and any other information filed before or during public hearings held in Salem. Suggested changes or other information may be considered by the committee if they are:
  - submitted orally or in writing at the hearing **or**
  - submitted in writing to the Secretary of State at any time before the close of the hearing.


- 3 The committee must file a final financial estimate or explanation of the estimate if they change the original.

-  At least three members of the committee must approve the revised estimate or statement. If a member does not concur, the estimate or statement must show only that the member dissents. The revised statement must be filed electronically using ORESTAR.
  -  If a majority of the committee members do not approve the estimate or statement, the Secretary of State prepares, files and certifies a financial estimate or statement.
- 4 Any person who alleges a financial estimate or statement was prepared in violation of the procedures described in ORS 250.125 and 250.127 may petition the Oregon Supreme Court.
    -  A petition may not be filed challenging the contents of the estimate or statement or whether an estimate or statement should be prepared.
      -  For correct procedures on filing a challenge, refer to the Oregon Rules of Appellate Procedure, Rule 12.30. Contact the Oregon Supreme Court for more information at 503 986 5555.
  - 5 The Supreme Court conducts the review and considers the petition expeditiously. After reviewing the procedures, the Supreme Court makes its decision.
    -  If the Supreme Court orders the preparation of a second estimate or statement by the Financial Estimate Committee the estimate or statement is:
      - filed not later than two days after the court's decision;
      - subject to a public hearing within two days of filing;
      - certified not later than seven days after the court's decision; and
      - may not be appealed.

# Explanatory Statement

*ORS 251.205, 251.215, 251.225, 251.230, 251.167, 251.170 and 251.235*


An explanatory statement of each state measure is prepared and printed in the State Voters' Pamphlet and translated for the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet in the most commonly spoken languages in the state. The explanatory statement is an impartial statement explaining the measure. For all state measures a committee of five members writes an explanatory statement. There is a separate committee for each measure.

 If a committee does not adopt an explanatory statement, one drafted by the Legislative Counsel Committee is printed.




Explanatory Statement	Primary Election	General Election
Deadline to Provide ORESTAR Username of Designated Filer	January 21, 2026	July 13, 2026
Deadline to Appoint Proponents to Explanatory Statement Committees	January 20, 2026	July 6, 2026
Deadline for Secretary of State to Appoint Proponents if Legislative Officials or Chief Petitioners do not	January 21, 2026	July 8, 2026
Deadline for Secretary of State to Appoint Opponents	January 21, 2026	July 8, 2026
Deadline for Committee to Select Fifth Member	January 28, 2026	July 15, 2026
Deadline for Secretary of State to Select Fifth Member if Committee Does Not	January 30, 2026	July 17, 2026
Deadline to File Explanatory Statements	February 9, 2026	July 27, 2026
Deadline to File Revised Explanatory Statement	February 18, 2026	August 5, 2026
Deadline to File Petition to Review Explanatory Statement	February 23, 2026	August 10, 2026

The explanatory statement must be filed electronically using ORESTAR. Committees must choose a person to file the statement and provide the Elections Division with the ORESTAR account username, first and last name and contact information for that person.

- 1 Two proponents are appointed to the explanatory statement committee for all state measures.
  - For a legislative referral, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House appoint one senator and one representative.
  - For an initiative or referendum petition, two proponents are appointed by chief petitioners.

 If legislative officials or chief petitioners do not appoint the two members to the explanatory statement committee, the Secretary of State appoints two proponents.

- 2 The Secretary appoints two measure opponents to the committee.
- 3 The four appointed committee members select the fifth member and notify the Secretary, in writing, of the choice.

-  If the four explanatory statement committee members do not appoint the fifth member, the Secretary appoints the fifth member.
- 4 Explanatory statements are prepared by the explanatory statement committee and the Legislative Counsel Committee. If the committee does not adopt an explanatory statement, the one drafted by the Legislative Counsel Committee is printed in the voters' pamphlet. For the explanatory statement committee to adopt an explanatory statement, it must be approved by at least three members.
-  Both committees prepare and file a statement that:
- is simple, impartial and understandable;
  - is 500 words or less; and
  - explains the measure.
- 5 Public hearings are held in Salem to receive suggested changes or other information relating to the explanatory statement. Submit suggested changes or other information:
- orally or in writing at the hearing
- or**
- in writing to the Secretary of State at any time before the close of the hearing
- 6 Any person dissatisfied with an explanatory statement may petition the Oregon Supreme Court seeking a different version of that statement.
-  For correct procedures on filing a challenge, refer to the Oregon Rules of Appellate Procedure, Rule 12.30. Contact the Oregon Supreme Court for more information at 503 986 5555.
- 7 The Supreme Court conducts the review and considers the petition expeditiously. After reviewing the explanatory statement, the Supreme Court makes its decision. The statement certified by the Supreme Court is the explanatory statement printed in the State Voters' Pamphlet.



# Argument in Support of Legislative Referral

*ORS 251.167, 251.170, and 251.245*

Arguments in support of legislatively referred measures may be submitted by the Legislature for the State Voters’ Pamphlet. This argument appears first in the supporting arguments section for a legislative referral. The Legislature may submit translations of arguments for the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet in the **most commonly spoken languages** in the state: Arabic, Chinese (Simplified & Traditional characters), Farsi, French, German, lu Mien, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Marshallese, Nepali, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese. Submitted translations must be consistent with the meaning the original English version as required by ORS 251.170(4)(a). The Elections Division will add a disclaimer that the Legislature provided the translations.

Argument in Support of Legislative Referral	Primary Election	General Election
Deadline to Provide ORESTAR Username of Designated Filer	February 24, 2026	August 6, 2026
Deadline to File Argument in ORESTAR	March 12, 2026	August 25, 2026

The President and Speaker appoint a committee to draft the legislative argument in support of the measure, consisting of:

- one Senator and
- two Representatives

The argument may not exceed 325 words and must be filed electronically using ORESTAR. The committee must choose a person to file the argument and provide the Elections Division with the ORESTAR account username, first and last name and contact information for that person.

# Citizens’ Initiative Review Commission

*ORS 250.137-250.149 and ORS 251.170—As of 2018 the Citizens’ Initiative Review Commission has been on hiatus.*

The Citizens’ Initiative Review Commission may select one or more state measures proposed by initiative petition and ask a separate citizen panel to review each selected measure.

Citizens’ Initiative Review Commission	General Election
Deadline to Provide ORESTAR Username of Designated Filer	August 11, 2026
Deadline to File Argument in ORESTAR	August 25, 2026

Each citizen panel will:

- evaluate and write statements about the measure to appear in the voters’ pamphlet;
- conduct public hearings to receive testimony or other information from both proponents and opponents of the measure; and
- adjust the statements as necessary from testimony received at the public hearings.

The Elections Division translates citizen panel statements for the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet. The statement must be filed electronically using ORESTAR.

Prior to filing, the panel must designate a person to file the statement and provide the Elections Division with the ORESTAR account username, first and last name and contact information for that person.

# Racial and Ethnic Impact Statement

## For Measure Related to Crime

*ORS 137.685, 251.167, 251.170, and 251.185*

Upon written request from a member of the Legislative Assembly from each major political party, the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission shall prepare a racial and ethnic impact statement for a state measure that is related to crime and likely to have an effect on the criminal justice system. Racial and Ethnic Impact Statements are prepared and printed in the State Voters' Pamphlet and translated for the abbreviated online, translated pamphlet in the **most commonly spoken languages** in the state.

Racial and Ethnic Impact Statement	Primary Election	General Election
Deadline to File Statement	February 9, 2026	July 27, 2026
Deadline to File Revised Statement	February 18, 2026	August 5, 2026

- 1 The racial and ethnic impact statement shall:
  - describe the effects of the proposed legislation on the racial and ethnic composition of the criminal offender population;
  - be impartial, simple and understandable;
  - for racial and ethnic groups for which data is available:
    - ✓ include an estimate of how the proposed legislation would change the racial and ethnic composition of those likely to be convicted of a criminal offense created or changed by the proposed legislation;
    - ✓ include an estimate of the average length of incarceration that each racial and ethnic composition group receives as a sentence, if applicable;
    - ✓ include a statement of the methodologies and assumptions used in preparing the estimate;
    - ✓ include an estimate of the racial and ethnic composition of the crime victims who may be affected by the proposed legislation; and
    - ✓ adjust the statement as necessary from testimony received at the public hearings.
- 2 The statement must be filed electronically by email to [orestar-support.sos@sos.oregon.gov](mailto:orestar-support.sos@sos.oregon.gov), not later than the dates listed above, in a format compatible with Microsoft Word. Statements are available as a public record upon filing.
- 3 The Secretary of State shall hold a public hearing in Salem no later than ten days after the statement deadlines above to receive suggested changes or other information relating to the explanatory statement. The Secretary must give reasonable statewide notice. Submit suggested changes or other information:
  - orally or in writing at the hearing
  - or
  - in writing to the Secretary of State at any time before the close of the hearing.
- 4 The commission must consider public comments and may file a revised statement electronically by email to [orestar-support@sos.oregon.gov](mailto:orestar-support@sos.oregon.gov), not later than the following dates, in a format compatible with Microsoft Word. Revised statements are available as a public record upon filing.

# County Measure, Community College District Measure relating to bonding or Metropolitan Service District Measure

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## ORS 251.285

A county measure, community college district measure relating to bonding or metropolitan service district measure may only appear in the State Voters' Pamphlet in the following circumstances:

- county is not producing a voters' pamphlet; and
- a ballot title and explanatory statement are drafted; and
- an ordinance is adopted and followed that provides a review procedure for the ballot title and explanatory statement; and
- an ordinance is adopted and followed that allows for the submission of arguments in support of or in opposition to the measure; and
- the fee imposed for submission of arguments does not exceed \$300 or 1,000 signatures; and

If the county, metropolitan service district or community college district has adopted and complied with ordinances required by ORS 251.285, the decision to include the measure, ballot title, explanatory statement and arguments in the State Voters' Pamphlet shall be made by:

- The county governing body, for a county measure
- The council of the metropolitan service district, for a metropolitan service district measure
- The district elections authority, for a community college district measure related to bonding
- The chief petitioners of the initiative or referendum, for a measure initiated or referred by the people. Chief petitioners shall indicate their decision with a statement signed by all the chief petitioners of the filed statement with:
  - The county clerk, for a county measure
  - The executive officer of the metropolitan service district, for a metropolitan service district measure
  - The district elections authority, for a community college district measure relating to bonding



Arguments are filed with the county elections official, district elections authority, or executive of the metropolitan service district who is responsible for compiling and submitting the required information and all arguments to the Elections Division by the filing deadline.



Contact the [county elections official](#) for further information including how to file arguments.

## City Measure in State Voters' Pamphlet

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There is no provision under state law that allows a city measure to appear in the State Voters' Pamphlet.



Forms are available online at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov).

## Filing Statements and Arguments

All statements, arguments and translations must be filed electronically using ORESTAR. The filing must be accompanied by the required filing fee or a completed voters' pamphlet petition having the required number of signatures in lieu of the filing fee. Translated submissions of English filings do not require an additional fee. The signature sheets for a completed voters' pamphlet petition are filed by paper.



See the [ORESTAR User's Manual: Voters' Pamphlet Filing](#) for detailed instruction on filing electronically.

### Deadline and Filing Fees:

To ensure a statement for a candidate or an argument for or against a state measure appears in the State Voters' Pamphlet, filers may submit a prospective petition and also pay the filing fee. The fee must be paid prior to the filing deadline. If the State Voters' Pamphlet petition is filed with the Elections Division by 5:00:00 pm on the filing deadline and the required number of signatures have been verified by the Elections Division by 5:00:00 pm on the filing deadline, the filing fee will be refunded.

## Filing by Fee

After launching the Voters' Pamphlet Filing entry pages:

- 1 Filing type must be 'Fee' as the filing method in the Filing Information Tab;
- 2 Complete all required fields in the Filing Information Tab and Statement Tab;
- 3 Upload all Statement of Endorsement forms and a photograph of the candidate (if desired); and
- 4 Pay the required filing fee using eCheck, VISA or MasterCard.



An eCheck is an electronic version of a paper check used to make payments online. It allows filers without a VISA or MASTERCARD to electronically pay the required filing fees.



If an eCheck is returned due to insufficient funds and the filing deadline has not passed, contact the Elections Division at 503 986 1518 for instructions on resubmitting payment.



Any statement or argument paid for with an eCheck that is returned due to insufficient funds after the filing deadline will not appear in the State Voters' Pamphlet.

## Filing by Petition

After launching the Voters' Pamphlet Filing entry pages, do the following:

### 1 Prospective Petition

- Filing method must be Petition as the filing method in the Filing Information Tab;
- Complete all required fields in the Filing Information Tab and Statement Tab;
- Upload all Statement of Endorsement forms and a photograph of the candidate (if desired); and Submit Filing.



A candidate photo and [SEL 400](#) Statement of Endorsement forms may be uploaded for a petition filing until 5:00:00 PM on the filing deadline.



When filing by petition, consider the [deadline to submit signatures for Guaranteed Verification](#).



## 2 Approval to Circulate

The Elections Division reviews the prospective petition and, if complete, will give written approval to circulate that includes:



- the required number of signatures
- the filing deadline and the [deadline to submit signatures for Guaranteed Verification](#)
- signature sheet template and
- a copy of the statement or argument that must be attached to or copied onto the back of the signature sheet template.



After receiving approval to circulate the statement or argument may not be amended unless the filer begins the petition process again.

## 3 Format of Petition Signature Sheets

Each signature sheet must meet the following requirements:

- standard 8½ x 11 size paper or equivalent;
- printed on at least 20-pound uncoated paper or equivalent; and
- have the statement or argument either copied on the reverse or attached to the signature sheet.



No more than five petition sheets may be attached to a single copy of the statement or argument.

## 4 Gathering Petition Signatures

Review the legal requirements and guidelines for circulating the petition with circulators before collecting any signatures.

- To ensure the petition has enough valid signatures, filers should collect more than the required number of signatures.



Failure to comply with the legal requirements and guidelines may result in rejection of those sheets.



## Guidelines for Circulation

To ensure compliance with circulating requirements filers must educate circulators on the guidelines for circulating the statement or argument and monitor their activities

## Circulator Requirements

Each circulator must:	What this means:
→ Personally witness each signature collected.	✓ Watch the person sign the petition. <i>i</i> It is not sufficient to merely be present in the same room or vicinity.
→ Complete the circulator certification after witnessing all signatures collected on a sheet.	✓ Sign the certification using a legal signature. <i>i</i> A legal signature is defined as a signature having obvious and predominantly matching characteristics to signatures on file from a paid circulator's registration, signatures in the Oregon voter registration file or the signature on an official government document. <i>i</i> Initials, signature stamps, illegible or printed script are not sufficient unless verified by exemplar.
→ Supply the date when the certification was signed.	✓ The date must be in month, day, year order if written in all numbers.



A circulator's failure to follow these requirements may result in the rejection of the petition signature sheets and a felony conviction for the circulator.

## Circulator Prohibitions

It is against the law for circulators to knowingly:

- circulate a petition containing a false signature;
- attempt to obtain the signature of a person who is not qualified to sign the petition;  
*i* Only active registered voters in the candidate's district or who would be eligible to vote for the measure may sign a petition.
- make false statements to any person who signs the petition or requests information about it;
- offer money or anything of value to another person to sign or not sign the petition; and
- sell or offer to sell signature sheets.

## Signer Requirements

Each petition signer must:	What this means
→ Signers must supply an original signature but are encouraged to also supply their printed name, date signed and address.	✓ Petition signers must sign the petition using a signature contained in their voter registration record.
<b>For candidate statements</b>	
→ Signers must be active registered voters and able to vote for the candidate.	✓ Information in the voter registration record is up to date and the signer would be able to vote for candidates for the office at a general election or for the measure.
<b>For state measure arguments</b>	
→ Signers must be an active registered voter.	



## Signature Date

If no date is supplied by the signer, the signature is only considered valid if the signer:

- ✓ was an active registered voter between the petition's approval to circulate date and the circulator's certification date or
  - ✓ originally registered to vote on or after the date the petition's approval to circulate date **and** was an active registered voter between their original registration date and the circulator's certification date.
- i** This standard also applies to any signer that provides an ambiguous date such as a date of birth or a date that has not yet occurred at the time of verification instead of the date they signed the petition.

## Signer Prohibitions

It is against the law for signers to knowingly:

- sign another person's name under any circumstances;
- sign a petition more than one time; or
- sign a petition when not qualified to sign it.

**!** Only active registered voters may sign a petition. If the signer is not registered to vote or an active voter, then the signature will be rejected unless a completed registration card is received by a designated voter registration agency or elections filing officer before 5:00:00 pm the day the petition is signed or 11:59 pm if completed electronically online at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov).

## 5 Certification of Signature Sheets

*OAR 165-014-0270*

After all signatures on a signature sheet have been collected, circulators complete the certification by signing their legal signature with a minimum of a first-name initial and full last name and by supplying the date when the certification was signed.

**i** If additional signatures are gathered after the circulator certification has been signed and dated, the circulator must re-sign and re-date the certification.

If the circulator certification is incomplete or insufficient the signature sheet may be rejected.




Prior to submission for signature verification the circulator may correct the following defects:

### Circulator Signature Defects

If the circulator has:	Then the circulator should:
→ signed using only initials; <b>i</b> Unless verified by exemplar.	✓ re-sign and re-date certification with legal signature;
→ signed using a signature stamp; <b>i</b> Unless a signature stamp approved under ORS 246.025.	✓ re-sign and re-date certification with legal signature;
→ signed using an illegible signature; <b>i</b> Unless verified by exemplar.	✓ re-sign and re-date certification with legal signature;
→ photocopied or carbon copied the certification; or	✓ sign and re-date certification with legal signature; or
→ signed in a manner that the signature, printed name and address are all illegible.	✓ re-sign and re-date certification with legal signature.






## Certification Date Defects

If the date is:	Then the circulator should:
→ missing;	✓ re-sign and date <b>or</b> date and initial correction;
→ crossed out;	✓ re-sign and re-date <b>or</b> re-date and initial correction;
→ overwritten with a different date;	✓ re-sign and re-date <b>or</b> re-date and initial correction;
→ earlier than all petition signers;  Does not apply if the circulator and the only signer are the same person.	✓ re-sign and re-date <b>or</b> re-date and initial correction;
→ earlier than some, but not all petition signers;  Only those signatures dated on or before the date of the certification will be accepted.	✓ re-sign and re-date <b>or</b> re-date and initial correction;
→ partial or ambiguous; or	✓ re-sign and re-date <b>or</b> re-date and initial correction;  Date must be in month, day, year order if written in all numeric characters.
→ obscured in any way by white out or other correction fluid or adhesive tape;	✓ re-sign and re-date <b>or</b> re-date and initial correction.

The following defects in the circulator certification cannot be corrected and any signature sheet submitted that has one of these defects will be rejected:


## Incurable Defects

→ the original signature of a circulator has been crossed out and a different circulator's signature is inserted;  This does not apply if the original signature is that of an individual whose signature appears on the same signature sheet as a signer.
→ two individuals sign and date as circulator; or  This does not apply if the only signers and the circulators are the same people.
→ white-out or other correction fluid or adhesive tape appears on the signature line.


 Illustrated examples of circulator signature and date defects are available in the [Circulator Training Manual](#) located at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov).

## 6 Signature Verification and Completing the Petition

Filers submit signature sheets having at least 100% of required number of signatures to the proper election official for verification against the voters' registration record, allowing sufficient time for the verification process to be completed prior to the filing deadline.

 The Elections Division will not accept signatures for verification or certified signature sheets prior to the first day to file by fee or completed petition.

 See [Filing Requirements](#).

 The elections official is not required to begin verification until the raw number of signatures submitted is equal to or exceeds the required number of signatures.

Before filing the signature sheets for verification, statement and argument filers must ensure each signature sheet certification is signed and dated by the circulator.

## Verification Conducted by County Elections Official

If the County Elections Official conducts signature verification, the filer is responsible for allowing sufficient time for both the verification to be conducted and the filer to submit the petition to the Elections Division by the filing deadline.

To complete the petition process, no later than the **filing deadline**, a statement or argument filer must submit to the Elections Division:



- Completed form **SEL 338 Petition Submission – Candidate, Voters' Pamphlet**
- signature sheets, certified by the county elections official, that have the required number of valid signatures.

## Verification Conducted by Elections Division

If the Elections Division conducts signature verification, the filer must complete and submit:



- Form **SEL 338 Petition Submission – Candidate, Voters' Pamphlet**
- **At least 100% of the required number of signatures for the petition**
- For petition signatures to be accepted as payment, signature verification of all signatures must be completed by the Elections Division prior to the filing deadline. **No signatures will be verified after the filing deadline.**
- If signatures are filed no later than:
  - The **Guaranteed Verification Deadline** – the Elections Division guarantees to complete verification of the signatures submitted prior to the Filing Deadline.
  - The **Filing Deadline** – the Division cannot guarantee verification of the signatures will be completed prior to the Filing Deadline. **If verification is not completed, the filing will not appear in the State Voters' Pamphlet.**

## Deadline to Submit Signatures for Guaranteed Verification

If 100% of the required signatures are submitted by the **Deadline to submit signatures for Guaranteed Verification**, the elections official will complete signature verification by the filing deadline.

If at least the minimum number of required signatures for the filing are verified by the elections official, no later than the filing deadline, the petition signatures will be accepted in lieu of the fee.

Signatures filed after this date may not be verified by the filing deadline. If the elections official does not complete verification of the signatures by 5:00:00 PM on the filing deadline a petition filing will not be included in the voters' pamphlet.

- Petition filings for the State Voters' Pamphlet:
  - Petition filings may be converted to fee filings after filing and until the filing deadline. If converted to a fee filing, petition signatures will not be verified.
  - An additional Candidate Statement or Measure Argument Fee filing may be filed in addition to the petition filing.
    - If the Elections Division completes verification of signatures by 5:00:00 PM on the filing deadline and determines that sufficient signatures were submitted, the additional fee filing statement or argument will be rejected and the filing fee for that statement will be refunded. The petition filing will remain the primary filing.



## 7 Signature Tally

The Elections Division reviews each signature sheet and removes the sheet if:

- the signature sheet was not approved for circulation;
- the circulator did not sign and date the certification;
- the circulator signed the certification before all signers on the signature sheet;
- the circulator certification has an incurable defect; and
- any sheet that does not comply with [OAR 165-014-0275](#).



Unapproved petition sheets and those that do not meet legal requirements and guidelines will be rejected.

After tabulating the number of signatures contained on the accepted signature sheets the Elections Division notifies the filer of the final tally.



If the petition does not contain the required number of valid signatures and the filing deadline has not passed, additional signatures may be submitted.

## Amending a Filing

Statements, arguments and translations may be amended in ORESTAR until 5:00:00 pm on the filing deadline for the election. Filers may change the statement, argument or translations, provide SEL 400s or replacement or substitute photographs.

If the filer submits signatures in lieu of the filing fee, the statement or argument may not be changed unless the filer begins the petition process again or pays the required filing fee.



See the [ORESTAR User's Manual: Voters' Pamphlet Filing](#) for detailed instruction on amending a State Voters' Pamphlet statement or argument electronically.

## Withdrawing a Filing

Statements, arguments and translations may be withdrawn in ORESTAR until 5:00:00 pm on the filing deadline for the election. Once withdrawn, the filer cannot reactivate the statement or argument but can refile if the filing deadline has not passed. Any signatures collected in lieu of the filing fee for the withdrawn statement or argument are void. The Elections Division will refund filing fees.



Candidates that withdraw their candidacy in accordance with the [State Candidates Manual](#) or [County, City or District Candidates Manual](#), but after the State Voters' Pamphlet filing deadline, will not appear in the pamphlet and any filing fee paid will be refunded.



## Compliance

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*ORS 251.049, 251.055, 251.075, 251.085, ORS 251.087, ORS 251.170, and 251.260*

For purposes of compliance review requirements under ORS Chapter 251.087, 'contact' is defined as electronic mail.

## Review of Candidate Statements

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After the deadline the Elections Division reviews each statement, and translations, if any, to ensure:

- ✓ the statement begins with the **required information**, which includes:
  - Occupation,
  - Occupational background,
  - Educational background and
  - Prior governmental experience;
- ✓ the photograph, if filed, complies with the requirements of ORS 251.075 and the [Photographs Requirements](#) in this manual;
- ✓ the statement and translation, if any, do not have any obscene, profane or defamatory language; incite or advocate hatred, abuse or violence toward any person or group; or have any language which may not legally be sent through the mail; and
- ✓ [SEL 400](#): Statement of Endorsement form was filed when the name of a person or organization is used or if the name is used with a quotation, that the statement is identified by its source and date.


## Review of Measure Arguments

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*ORS 251.260, 251.049, 251.055 and 251.170*

After the deadline, the Elections Division reviews each argument, to determine if an error was made in:

- identifying the measure number to which the argument relates or
- designating that the argument supports or opposes the measure.

 The Elections Division also reviews each argument for statement of endorsement agreement and will make any necessary changes to correct or bring the material into compliance.

Oregon law does not allow Statement of Endorsement Forms (SEL 400) to be submitted after the filing deadline for measure argument filings. **This process differs from that of a candidate statement.**

## Statement of Endorsement Agreement

The Elections Division resolves conflicts between the [SEL 400](#) and the statement or argument in the following manner:

- When reviewed, if both Option 1 and Option 2 are selected on the [SEL 400](#), and nothing has been entered in the Required Reproduction box, the [SEL 400](#) will be accepted as if only Option 1 had been selected.
- When reviewed, if both Option 1 and Option 2 are selected on the [SEL 400](#), and the endorser has entered information in the Required Reproduction box, the [SEL 400](#) will be accepted as if only Option 2 had been selected.
- The information entered in the Required Reproduction box, if any, governs representation and spelling of name, title and organization, identifying endorsers in the statement or argument.
- The statement or argument governs variations in punctuation, abbreviations and capitalizations.
- The statement or argument may include geographic identifiers and other descriptors such as occupation not listed in the Required Reproduction box on the [SEL 400](#).



The Elections Division will administratively revise and bring into compliance any statement identified as not in compliance with the Required Reproduction box on the Statement of Endorsement forms submitted if:

- ✓ the statement, after revision, does not exceed 325 words or 30 square inches of space and
- ✓ the revision maintains the format of the statement.


The Elections Division will contact the filer of a statement which has not been administratively revised to give the reasons why material does not comply with applicable statutes and provide the deadline to file requested corrections.



## Correcting Material After Deadline

If corrections to a statement, photograph, statement of endorsement, argument, or any accompanying translations are required, the Elections Division will attempt to contact the filer using the phone number provided in the filing if a response to the email is not received. An email will be sent to the email address provided in the filing. The email will identify and provide:

- material that requires correction or violates statutory provisions;
- reasons why the material does not comply;
- instructions on how to correct or bring the material into compliance, if allowed; and
- deadline to file corrections.

 Additional changes to the statement or argument that were not identified by the Elections Division cannot be made.

English material revisions may be emailed, faxed, hand-delivered, or mailed. A revised portrait must be filed electronically by email.

<b>Deadline to Correct English Material</b>	<b>Primary Election</b>	<b>General Election</b>
Deadline for Division to review for compliance	March 17, 2026	August 28, 2026
Deadline for Division to contact filers with required corrections	March 19, 2026	September 1, 2026
Deadline for filers to file corrected material	March 23, 2026	September 3, 2026

### Translations

If there are any compliance issues identified within accompanying translations requiring correction, the Elections Division will attempt to contact the filer to identify and provide:

- translations that require correction or violate statutory provisions;
- reasons why the translation does not comply;
- instructions on how to correct or bring the translation into compliance, if allowed; and
- deadline to file corrected translations.

Corrected translations may only reflect the required revisions identified by the Division. Additional changes to the translated statement or argument cannot be made.

Corrected translations must be submitted electronically as a PDF by email to orestar-support.sos@sos.oregon.gov.

If revised translations of required corrections are not submitted or required compliance changes are not made to the translation(s), the translated statement will be excluded from the abbreviated online, translated voters' pamphlet.

<b>Deadline to Correct Translated Material</b>	<b>Primary Election</b>	<b>General Election</b>
Deadline to contact filers with required corrections	March 25, 2026	September 8, 2026
Deadline for filers to file corrected translations	March 31, 2026	September 14, 2026

## Standard Corrections

For any statement or measure argument that exceeds 325 words, or 30 square inches of space, the Elections Division may apply a Standard Correction to bring argument into compliance.

- Statements or arguments that are still out of compliance after the Elections Division applies the Standard Correction may be rejected.
- Standard corrections are not applied to translated submissions. See [Correcting Material After the Deadline](#).

Reason out of Compliance	Standard Correction
Missing SEL 400	Name of endorser and any associated quote will be removed from the voters' pamphlet statement or argument.
Conflict between Required Reproduction box on the SEL 400 and the statement or argument	Statement or argument will be edited to match the Required Reproduction box on the SEL 400.
Over word count – Less than 20 words	<p>Targeted removal of words and format adjustments</p> <p>Elections Division staff will identify and remove words or phrases that do not affect the intended meaning or message.</p> <p>Examples of targeted words and format adjustments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ spaces surrounding hyphens</li> <li>→ "that," "Oregon," "State," or "Ballot"</li> <li>→ any elementary, middle or high school listed, unless only Educational Background supplied</li> <li>→ district number in the Occupation or Prior Governmental Experience fields, if it is the same district the candidate is currently running for</li> </ul>
Over word count – 20 or more words	<p>Generalized removal of words</p> <p>Whole sentences, statements or bullet points will be removed, from the bottom of the statement or argument, until the statement or argument has no more than 325 words. This may cause the final statement or argument to have less than 325 words.</p>
Over 30 square inches	<p>Evaluate and revise spacing</p> <p>Change paragraph returns to manual line breaks between headers and body and in list of endorsers.</p> <p>Condense line by line endorsement list to run-on wrapped list of endorsements separated by semi colon.</p> <p>Remove whole sentences, statements or bullet points from the bottom of the statement or argument, until the statement or argument fits within 30 square inches.</p>

## Standard Format Examples

### Submitted

#### Argument in Favor

##### Oregon Rivers

Oregon is richly endowed with rivers that din through canyons and mountains and whisper through the valleys.

They flow deep through our consciousness for they have carried our discoverers and pioneers, watered our good earth, slaked our thirsting cities, turned the wheels of industry and provided a wealth of fishing and recreational pleasure.

We have harnessed many of these streams for navigation, power and water supply and crowded their courses with highways and business.

##### Oregon Wild and Free

Considering the demands of the future we have not yet made adequate provision to keep at least a small stock of our finest and still wild rivers in their free-flowing setting.

In a state as bountifully endowed with rivers as Oregon we still have time to claim a few of these free-flowing streams which are outstanding for scenic, fishery, wildlife, geologic, botanic, historic and recreational values. These still wild rivers can be part of Oregon's future if we act to protect their character.

##### The Oregon Scenic Rivers Measure

The measure would:

- permit pastoral uses of the land and compatible timber harvesting
- stop dams
- allow highways, industrial, business or commercial developments within a quarter-mile of either bank of the scenic waterway if they would not impair the natural beauty of the scenic waterway

##### Water Rights

Rights to the beneficial use of waters from the designated rivers, and all present uses by the adjoining landowners, are not affected as spelled out in the measure. It protects all existing water rights.

##### Designated Rivers

Portions of six rivers representing some of the wildest, most beautiful waterways in Oregon — both forested and desert — have been designated for inclusion under the measure. They are the:

1. Owyhee
2. Rogue
3. Illinois
4. main stem John Day
5. Deschutes
6. Minam

Alternative uses are rapidly taking our remaining wild rivers. Their numbers diminish as the recreational need for them grows. It takes but one harness to change a river's character forever.

*(This information furnished by Don S. Willner, Secretary, Oregon Scenic Rivers Committee.)*

### Standard Format Applied

#### Argument in Favor

##### Oregon Rivers

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## Submitted

## Governor

**Tom  
McCall**

Republican

**Occupation:** Governor

**Occupational Background:** Journalism;  
War Correspondent; Talk Show Host

**Educational Background:** University of

Oregon, BA (1936)

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Secretary of State

**KEEP OREGON, OREGON.**

**KEEP TOM McCALL**

You can judge the effectiveness of a governor by his accomplishments or, by what other people say about him. By either standard, Tom McCall is probably the most effective Governor in Oregon's history.

Tom McCall has taken the lead in environmental control, reorganization of State government, property tax relief, and many more issues vital to Oregon — and to you.

**TOM MCCALL**

**A GREAT LEADER, A GREAT GOVERNOR**

Tom McCall knows Oregon, its problems and its promise. And he understands the needs of the people. Remember that when you vote for governor.

**TOM McCALL**

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS GOVERNOR**

- Established a landmark in American law by securing passage of legislation which preserves Oregon's beaches for all Oregonians—forever.
- Created Department of Environmental Quality.
- Established "SOLV" (Stop Oregon Litter & Vandalism, Inc.)
- Obtained \$150 million in bonds for sewage treatment plants in Oregon communities.
- Provided tax credit for non-polluting capital investments.
- Created the Management '70s Task Force which will save millions of dollars per year.
- Established the consumer service task force to safeguard Oregon consumers from unscrupulous trade practices.
- Secured investment of \$84.3 million to improve and expand port and harbor facilities.

**WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT**

**TOM McCALL**

"Governor McCall . . . has done more than any Governor within memory to equip Oregon's basic structure to meet the challenges of the future . . ."

SALEM OREGON STATESMAN (7/4/1970)

"Governor McCall has continued to show himself as a man of compassion and conscience with a public rapport that extends across party lines . . ."

PORTLAND OREGONIAN (4/15/1969)

". . . the most effective Governor since Os West and maybe the most effective Governor ever . . ."

EUGENE REGISTER GUARD (5/23/1970)

*(This information furnished by Committee to Re-Elect Tom McCall.)*

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## List of Forms

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**SEL 338**

Petition Submission – Candidate, Voters' Pamphlet

**SEL 400**

Statement of Endorsement