

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

OREGON EDITION

## VOTERS' GUIDE

VOLUME 47 NUMBER 2



**GENERAL  
ELECTION  
NOV. 5, 2024**

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## Introduction

This Nonpartisan Voters' Guide is published and provided free of charge by the League of Women Voters of Oregon. Large print, audio (read aloud), and Spanish Voters' Guides (Guía para Votantes) and more information are posted on our website [lwvor.org/vote](http://lwvor.org/vote).

Candidates on the ballot for statewide Oregon offices were contacted by email to answer questions prepared by the League of Women Voters of Oregon. Candidate replies are printed as received, free of edits. Visit [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) for more information supplied by candidates, for candidate forums and events and for more information on voting in Oregon.

## Important Dates

- **October 15th** is the last day to register to vote, to select or change your political party registration or to update your mailing address.
- **October 16th-24th** - when ballots will be mailed. If you do not receive your ballot by October 28th, contact your county elections office. You can call them at the phone number below.
- **Tuesday, November 5th** is election day. Ballots must be dropped off at a ballot box by 8pm, or postmarked by November 5th. No postage is required to mail your ballot.

## County Elections phone list

Contact for drop off locations and questions:

### County Elections Offices

Baker .....	541-523-8207	Harney.....	541-573-6641	Morrow.....	541-676-5604
Benton.....	541-766-6756	Hood River.....	541-386-1442	Multnomah .....	503-933-8683
Clackamas .....	503-655-8510	Jackson .....	541-774-6148	Polk .....	503-623-9217
Clatsop .....	503-325-8511	Jefferson .....	541-475-4451	Sherman .....	541-565-3606
Columbia .....	503-397-3796	Josephine.....	541-474-5243	Tillamook.....	503-842-3402
Coos .....	541-396-7610	Klamath.....	541-883-5134	Umatilla .....	541-278-6254
Crook .....	541-447-6553	Lake .....	541-947-6006	Union .....	541-963-1006
Curry .....	541-247-3297	Lane.....	541-682-4234	Wallowa.....	541-426-4543; option 5
Deschutes .....	541-388-6547	Lincoln .....	541-265-4131	Wasco .....	541-506-2530
Douglas .....	541-440-4252	Linn .....	541-967-3831	Washington .....	503-846-5800
Gilliam .....	541-351-9490	Malheur .....	541-473-5151	Wheeler .....	541-763-2374
Grant .....	541-575-1675	Marion..	503-588-5041 1-800-655-5388	Yamhill .....	503-434-7518

## Online Resources

You can find an online version of this voter guide, and more on our website: [lwvor.org/vote](http://lwvor.org/vote). For your specific ballot choices, go to [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) and enter your address.

## Check & Update Your Voter Registration and Address

You can register to vote, check on your registration, or update it online at [oregonvotes.org](http://oregonvotes.org). Click **Register to Vote** to register to vote. Click **My Vote** to check or update your registration, including your party affiliation and address. Your address must be correct. Ballots are NOT forwarded.

A person who is homeless or who resides where mail service is unavailable can register to have their ballot sent to their PO Box or to the office of their county clerk. These voters can pick up their ballot at their county elections office.

If an Oregon resident wishes to register to vote but doesn't feel safe disclosing their home address, they can still register and vote while maintaining their privacy. Visit [oregonvotes.org](http://oregonvotes.org) for details.

Call Oregon Elections toll-free: 1-866-673-8683 (se habla español); or for the hearing-impaired: TTY 1-800-735-2900. Visit [oregonvotes.org](http://oregonvotes.org) to learn more about voting in Oregon, and click on **County Election Officials** for your county elections information.

# BALLOT MEASURES

## Ballot Measure

# 115

### Impeachment of Elected State Executives Amendment

**Amends Constitution: Authorizes impeachment of statewide elected officials by Oregon Legislature with two-thirds vote of each house; establishes process.**

**REFERRAL:** *This measure was referred to voters by the 2023 state legislature in House Joint Resolution 16.*

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** *There is no financial impact on local government expenditures or revenues. The measure would have a minimal financial impact on state legislative expenditures if the impeachment trial happened during a regularly scheduled session. However, if it were to require a special legislative session and the trial lasted longer than four days, the cost would surpass \$100,000. Special session days for the legislature cost approximately \$27,011 for the first day and then \$16,173 for each additional day.*

### PROBABLE RESULTS OF A YES VOTE

*If this measure passes, the Oregon Legislature will have the power to impeach and remove elected state executives, including the Governor, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Treasurer, and the State Labor Commissioner. The measure encodes a procedure for impeachment in the Oregon State Constitution: the Oregon House of Representatives votes to charge the official with an impeachable offense, and the Oregon Senate, presided over by the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court, hears the case and votes on whether to convict. Both votes require a two-thirds majority.*

### PROBABLE RESULTS OF A NO VOTE

*If this measure fails, the Oregon Legislature will not have the power to impeach the governor or other state executive officials.*

## BACKGROUND

Oregon is the only state in the nation that does not allow the Legislature to impeach the Governor. This measure would amend Article IV of Oregon's Constitution to allow the Legislature to impeach the Governor and other statewide elected officials for malfeasance or corrupt conduct in office, willful neglect of duty, or any other felony or high crime.

Broad support for the measure has grown since 2015. In 2015 and 2017, the Oregon House of Representatives passed language for a constitutional amendment by wide margins, but the measure never came up for a vote in the Oregon Senate. The 2015 bill was passed in response to allegations of conflicts of interest and ethics complaints by then-Governor John Kitzhaber, which caused him to step down from office in February 2015. Then-Senate President Peter Courtney said the measure was unnecessary because Oregon voters could initiate recalls.

In 2023, lawmakers felt the urgency of an impeachment procedure in response to an investigation of Oregon Secretary of State Shemia

Fagan. Willamette Week reported on April 27, 2023, that Fagan had accepted a consulting contract with Veriede Holdings, an affiliate of cannabis dispensary chain La Mota, at the same time that her office was conducting an audit of the cannabis industry. After Governor Tina Kotek called for investigations by the Oregon Government Ethics Commission and the Oregon Department of Justice, Fagan stepped down effective May 8, 2023.

Although Oregon voters have the power to organize a recall election provided the official has held the office for a minimum of six months, proponents of Measure 115 argue that the recall process is onerous and, as happened with both Kitzhaber and Fagan, often relies on the goodwill of the public servant to step down.

In 2023, the impeachment amendment language passed by wide margins in both legislative houses.

## PROPOSAL

Ballot measure 115 amends the Oregon Constitution to allow the Legislature to impeach and remove elected state executives, including the Governor, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Treasurer, and the State Labor Commissioner. The measure intends to give the Oregon Legislature a right enjoyed by the legislative bodies of most of the other states. If the Oregon House votes--with a two-thirds majority--in favor of charging an official with an impeachable offense or offenses, the Oregon Senate would function as a court of impeachment, hearing the case and voting on whether to convict. The Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court would preside over the Senate trial. A two-thirds majority vote is required to convict.

*continued on next page*

**Amends Constitution: Authorizes impeachment of statewide elected officials by Oregon Legislature with two-thirds vote of each house; establishes process.**

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### SUPPORTERS SAY

- It is necessary to have an impeachment process available to legislators. Without it, elected officials may resist leaving office after committing an offense.
- Although Oregon voters enjoy the power of recall, the recall process is onerous. It also requires that the official has served in office for at least six months. In both recent cases, Governor Kitzhaber in 2015 (in office for his fourth term) and Secretary of State Fagan in 2023, the official had not been in office for six months, and therefore, could not be recalled.
- No one hopes that the impeachment process will be used, but it is seen as the ultimate just-in-case resolution.



### OPPONENTS SAY

- There is no organized opposition to this measure at this time. When the measure failed to be voted on by the Oregon Senate in the past, senators stated that the measure was unnecessary and that the recall process was adequate to protect the citizenry from the malfeasance or criminal behavior of elected officials.
- Political science professor Jim Moore, of Pacific University, noted in 2017 that a legitimate argument against instituting an impeachment process is that the process to impeach any member of the executive would turn into "a partisan fistfight."

# HOW WE RESEARCH BALLOT MEASURES

League of Women Voters members research and write these ballot measure reports. Researchers try to verify all factual information. Using published information and asking questions of economists and others, we work diligently to ensure our reports are balanced, accurate, and fair. We strive to provide the information you need to make an informed vote.



## Ballot Measure

# 116

## State Compensation Commission

### Amends Constitution: Establishes “Independent Public Service Compensation Commission” to determine salaries for specified officials, eliminates legislative authority to set such salaries

**REFERRAL:** *This measure is a constitutional amendment referred to the voters by the 2023 Oregon Legislature with a vote of 47 in favor, 3 against, and 10 excused in the House, and a vote of 21 in favor, 4 against, and 5 absent in the Senate.*

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** *There is no direct financial impact on state or local revenues. Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time. Once the Commission is in service, it will determine salaries to be paid to certain public officials. Once approved, these salaries will come from the General Fund.*

#### PROBABLE RESULTS OF A YES VOTE

*The Commission will be created and funded, and individual Commission members will be appointed. The Commission’s work will determine appropriate and equitable salaries for the individual positions assigned.*

#### PROBABLE RESULTS OF A NO VOTE

*The Commission will not be created and the current salary setting processes will be used.*

### BACKGROUND

Oregon law requires each county to appoint a compensation board to recommend salaries for various officials. There is currently no similar requirement for the state to do so. The Legislature established an Oregon Public Officials Compensation Commission via legislation in 1983. The seats became vacant in 2000. The Commission was revitalized in 2007 by appointing new members and a revised scope of work. The Commission was unfunded starting in 2008 during the recession and was eliminated in 2017. During the 2023 Legislative Session, Senate Joint Resolution 34 proposed an amendment to establish the Independent Public Service Compensation Commission.

The previous Public Officials Compensation Commission was permitted to recommend salaries but not to determine them. Further, there was no rule prohibiting persons connected to those under salary review from serving on the committee.

During the process to establish a new Commission, the House Committee of Rules noted that The National Conference on State Legislatures (NCSL) reports that 21 states set compensation or receive input from independent commissions on salaries. This study by NCSL surveyed salaries paid in 2022. At that time the

Oregon governor earned \$98,600, which was the fourth lowest in the United States. The salary for the Attorney General was the lowest in the country, and the salary for the Treasurer is the second lowest in the country.

### PROPOSAL

This referral establishes the “Independent Public Service Compensation Commission (IPSCC). If approved by voters, this commission will have the authority to determine salaries for identified individuals including the Governor, Treasurer, Attorney General, Commissioner of the Oregon

Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI), supreme court judges, other government judicial branch judges, state senators, state representatives, and district attorneys.

It also establishes that any officer or employee of the State of Oregon, registered lobbyists, or an immediate family member of an individual of these classes are prohibited from serving on the Commission.

If the measure passes, it is assumed it will be under a yet-to-be-designated state agency, which will be funded by the Legislature.



#### SUPPORTERS SAY

- We need to set salaries for our elected officials that reflect the responsibilities of the jobs.
- The measure allows a commission to consider the concern that some Oregon residents with average or lower incomes or resources are not financially able to serve in a legislative position requiring extensive time commitment.
- Oregon needs salary decisions independent of political pressures.
- This measure removes decision-making authority over salaries from the beneficiaries of those decisions.



#### OPPONENTS SAY

- There is no organized opposition to this measure.

## Ballot Measure

# 117

### Statewide Ranked Choice Voting

## Gives voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference; candidate receives majority votes in final round wins.

**STATUTORY REFERRAL:** Measure 117 is a statutory amendment referred to voters by the 2023 Oregon Legislature with a vote of 35 yea (with one excused) in the House and a last day of session vote of 17 yea (with 5 absent) in the Senate. The nay votes were 8 in the Senate (with 5 not voting) and 17 in the House (with 9 not voting).

**ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT:** Measure 117 is estimated to cost the State government approximately \$0.9 million during the 2023-25 biennium. These costs will pay for the Secretary of State's needed staff and consulting services to begin carrying out the measure. In the 2025-27 biennium, the cost of the measure is estimated to reach \$5.6 million, covering continued staff and consulting services, as well as outreach and IT needs. Local

government costs are less known. County clerks currently estimate that the measure will cost \$2.3 million initially. This funding will be used to improve technology, train staff, and test the new system. Every statewide election will cost an additional \$1.8 million for added printing and logistics. Software and maintenance contract costs will cost an additional \$0.4 million per year.

### PROBABLE RESULTS OF A YES VOTE

A "Yes" vote gives voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference for specified federal and statewide offices. It establishes a process for tallying votes in rounds, with the candidate receiving the fewest votes in each round being defeated and votes for the defeated candidate going to the voter's next-highest-ranked active candidate. A candidate must receive a majority of votes in the final round of voting to win the election.

### PROBABLE RESULTS OF A NO VOTE

A "No" vote maintains the current voting system. Each voter selects one candidate for federal and statewide offices. The candidate with the most votes wins. A majority of votes is not required for a candidate to win an election.

## BACKGROUND

Currently the election method Oregon uses to select a single winner restricts voters to selecting only one candidate for a single office. The winner does not need to garner a majority of votes but simply the "most votes," meaning candidates can win with only 20% or 30% of the vote.

Measure 117 allows an instant runoff, with a majority winner among candidates remaining in the final round, by providing an option to rank more than one candidate, if desired, for statewide and federal offices; write-in candidate(s) are also allowed.

When votes are counted, if no candidate receives a majority of votes (50% plus 1 vote) of voters' first choices, the votes are tallied in automatic runoffs. The candidate receiving the fewest votes is defeated. Voters who marked that defeated candidate as their first choice will then have their vote automatically counted for their next choice (if they marked one). These automatic rounds continue until a candidate reaches a majority of the votes.

The measure, which would start with elections beginning in 2028, requires that a voter education program be established, involving community-based organizations. As the measure authorizes local governments to adopt the election methods for local offices, the Secretary of State would be required to offer guidance (formal or informal) regarding the method to local government/service jurisdictions and school districts. [See the "proposal section" for offices that are covered under the measure.]

## PROPOSAL

This measure will change the current voting method for certain statewide offices in Oregon. Instead of a "pick one" election, in which a majority win is not required, it will adopt a method called ranked choice voting. Voters have the option to rank the candidates in their order of preference: 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice, etc. Voters can still choose just one candidate, if they desire. Only their active choice will count for any round. The final round will require a majority winner.

The change will take effect in 2028 and will be valid for both primaries and general elections. It will not include the Oregon Legislature (Oregon senators or representatives). It will include all elections in which voters throughout the state participate: US President and Vice President, US senators and representatives, Oregon Governor, Oregon Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Attorney General, and State Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries.

The measure allows for special rules for electing multiple winners. It authorizes cities or counties to adopt ranked choice voting if they so choose and if not prohibited by their home charter. It includes provisions for culturally-appropriate, community-based education of voters by the Secretary of State.

**Gives voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference; candidate receives majority votes in final round wins.**

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## SUPPORTERS SAY

- Measure 117 ensures that the final winner is supported by a majority of Oregonians. Conversely, in our current system a candidate can win with a very small percentage of the vote – meaning most voters voted for someone else. When electing one winner, majority rule is considered a fundamental principle of a democratic republic.
- Over 50 jurisdictions already use ranked choice voting, and in those places, campaigns tend toward more civility, since it benefits candidates to win additional support for second or further rankings beyond their base. This encourages less mud-slinging, more effort to reach consensus when governing, and more talk of policies rather than personalities.
- Measure 117 allows voters to “vote their hopes, not their fears” without having to strategize how they vote or worry about wasting their vote – voters can express true preferences, knowing further choices never hurt their favorite candidate, thus avoiding vote splitting and “spoilers.”
- Measure 117 gives voters more voice and more choices on their ballots, with fewer wasted votes. Measure 117 respects one person, one vote. If no one candidate achieves a majority, it is simply an automatic runoff election.
- In our current system, your vote matters ONLY if a candidate has to campaign for it. With Measure 117, candidates will need to campaign for all votes. It ensures a more meaningful ballot no matter where you live. Whether an urban Republican or a rural-farming Democrat, your vote will matter more. Ranked choice voting has been used and proven around the world and in over 50 jurisdictions in the United States – including right here in Oregon.



## OPPONENTS SAY

- Ranked choice voting is more difficult than our typical “pick one” elections and is only useful if more than two candidates are in a race. It may be easy to choose 1, 2, and 3, but voters may still be confused about the process. Can they pick just one? Can they give two candidates the same rank? What happens if they skip a ranking? And finally, how are the votes counted?
- All changes to our election system, whether difficult or simple, demand voter education for the public. This means increased cost for election officials to develop and disseminate materials.
- Views from the far right and far left tend to be overshadowed by the “middle-of-the-road” voter when ranked choice voting is used. Supporters of ranked choice voting tout this as a benefit, but those wishing to promote alternative perspectives and philosophies may see this system as unfairly favoring moderate voters.
- While most Oregon vendors of ballot-counting machines use equipment that can accommodate ranked choice voting, counties will still be charged implementation costs for software upgrades. Oregon administers elections with machines disconnected from the internet, counts ballots and reports results at the county level, and conducts hand-counted post-election audits. Under Measure 117, counties would struggle to share full results with the Secretary of State to certify the election. Hand counting ballots during audits would also become more complex.
- The measure does not include some of the most important races within Oregon, namely Oregon state legislators, which include state senators and representatives.
- Ranked choice voting can disadvantage parties, as when two Republican candidates ran against a Democrat in the 2022 race for US House in Alaska. One Republican candidate urged her supporters not to rank a second candidate, with the result that the Democrat won in a state that historically votes Republican.

## Ballot Measure

# 118

### Oregon Rebate

## Increases highest corporate minimum taxes; distributes revenue to eligible individuals; state replaces reduced federal benefits

**INITIATIVE:** *This measure is a statutory amendment placed on the ballot with an estimated 122,276 valid signatures. Antonio Gisbert is the chief petitioner.*

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** *The measure creates the Oregon Rebate program, which will be partially funded with a new corporate minimum tax equal to 3 percent of corporate sales above \$25 million. The rebate program will distribute the net revenues from the new tax to Oregon residents in equal amounts annually. Individuals who lose federal benefits because of the rebate will be held harmless with additional payments, which will come from the rebate revenue. According to the Legislative Revenue Office, following the initial phase-in, total biennial costs of the rebate program are expected to exceed new biennial income.*

### PROBABLE RESULTS OF A YES VOTE

*A "yes" vote increases corporate minimum tax on Oregon sales exceeding \$25,000,000; eliminates tax cap; distributes revenue to eligible individuals; state replaces any reduced federal benefits.*

### PROBABLE RESULTS OF A NO VOTE

*A "no" vote retains existing corporate minimum taxes on Oregon sales; twelve tax brackets impose different tax amounts, capped at \$100,000 tax on sales exceeding \$100,000,000.*

## BACKGROUND

Based on the use of federal supplemental income programs, Oregon has a relatively large population of low income residents. For example, SNAP benefits, formerly known as food stamps, were used by 17% of Oregon's population in 2023, compared to 11% in Washington and 12% in California. Similarly, the participation in Head Start programs was highest in Oregon: 0.31% of the population compared to 0.14% in Washington and 0.22% in California. One suggestion for helping to raise people out of poverty is the universal basic income program, which is designed to alleviate poverty and potentially replace other need-based social programs. The challenge is funding the program.

This ballot measure is designed to provide a universal basic income for Oregonians starting in 2026 through a new corporate income tax. The tax revenue would be redistributed to eligible citizens, which are those who have resided in Oregon at least 200 days in the previous calendar year, with exceptions for births or deaths. If the increase in income affects benefits in programs with income level cutoffs, the measure is designed to compensate for the loss of the benefits.

## PROPOSAL

The measure proposes, in addition to current corporate taxes, a new corporate minimum tax of 3% on C and S corporations with corporate sales above \$25 million and the distribution of that new revenue to eligible citizens. Individuals with eligible dependents or wards receive the rebates for those dependents and wards. If rebates are not claimed, they will carry over to the following year, and if rebates are declined, the money will be allocated to services for senior citizens, health care, public early childhood education, and public kindergarten through grade 12.

The rebates paid under this measure are not subject to state tax and do not affect eligibility for state benefit programs. The measure directs the Department of Human Services to seek waivers if eligibility for federal services is affected by the rebate or to reimburse federal benefit participants for the reduction in their benefits. The reimbursements are only to be funded by revenues from this measure. It applies to 2025 and later tax years and authorizes rebates to be paid beginning in 2026.

The analysis by the Legislative Revenue Office analysis of the measure concluded that

- The average rebate paid in 2026 (2025 tax year returns) is expected to be about \$1,160 per person, compared with projected rebates of \$1,605 and \$1,686 paid in 2027 and 2028, respectively.
- The overall average tax reduction per return is \$2,100.
- The rebate program would significantly reduce or eliminate personal income tax liability for filers with less than \$40,000 of income."

The analysis by the Legislative Revenue Office indicates that following the initial phase-in, total biennial costs of the rebate program are expected to exceed the new biennial revenue

- Because the measure requires that the increased revenue is first used to pay administrative costs and fund the "hold harmless" provisions, with the remainder distributed to residents, any additional costs must come from the General Fund. This measure is predicted to decrease tax payments by roughly \$17M per year.



## Increases highest corporate minimum taxes; distributes revenue to eligible individuals; state replaces reduced federal benefits

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• Estimated indirect impacts on personal income tax revenue are reductions of \$12 million in 2023-25, \$199 million in 2025-27, and \$207 million in 2027-29. S-corporations, which are included in this measure, do not pay tax as an entity but rather pass the taxable income to their shareholders. Their incomes would be reduced by the additional tax. Simulations also suggest that wages will be slightly depressed.

• Lastly, changes to the economy are projected to reduce state revenue by roughly \$11 million in 2023-25, \$150 million in 2025-27 and \$400 million in 2027-29. The LRO estimates a 1.3% increase in prices of goods and services and reductions in jobs, wages and personal incomes, assuming that corporations will pass the extra cost to consumers. This would be inflationary.



### SUPPORTERS SAY

- Families who are struggling will receive a lifeline from the funds from this rebate. Projections show that each Oregonian would receive about \$1600 per year.
- Studies show that recipients of funds from programs like these increase their expenditures on essentials like food, housing, and transportation and are more likely to visit a doctor or a dentist. They worked on average 1.3 hours less per week but remained engaged in the workforce.
- This tax, which is only on large corporations with sales of \$25M or more, will make corporations pay their fair share. Currently, many large corporations have tax rates of less than 1%.



### OPPONENTS SAY

- The proposed tax is on sales, not profits, which makes it difficult for low-margin businesses like grocery stores to remain profitable, inevitably forcing price increases, which will be passed on to the consumer and could result in businesses leaving the state.
- Oregon is currently ranked 28th in terms of corporate taxes. If this tax passes, Oregon may be on the list of the "10 Worst Business Tax Climates," discouraging companies from moving to Oregon and encouraging current employers to leave.
- Government officials say the bill would be a tremendous strain on our state, including a potential impact of more than \$2.8 billion on state resources and deep cuts to important front-line services, like health care and public safety. Non-partisan research also indicates that Measure 118 would increase prices for consumer goods and slow Oregon's job growth.

## ON THE WEB

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

**League of Women Voters of Oregon**

**LWVOR.org/VOTE**

- Voters' Guides
- Video Voters' Guides
- ALL Oregon Candidates & Measures
- Ballot Dropbox Map & Voter Registration Links
- League Events Calendar



## Ballot Measure

# 119

### Cannabis Industry Unionization Rules

## Cannabis retailers/processors must remain neutral regarding communications to their employees from labor organizations; penalties

**INITIATIVE:** *This measure is a statutory amendment placed on the ballot with an estimated 120,503 valid signatures. Dan Clay, Madison Walters, and Fiona Yau-Luu were the chief petitioners.*

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** *The Oregon Legislative Revenue Office has determined that this measure does not have significant direct or indirect economic or fiscal impacts.*

### PROBABLE RESULTS OF A YES VOTE

*Cannabis retailers and certain cannabis license holders must be party to a labor peace agreement, which would require them to remain neutral when labor organizations communicate with employees about collective bargaining rights with the possibility of licensure and certification penalties.*

### PROBABLE RESULTS OF A NO VOTE

*Current labor laws stay in place. There is no requirement that cannabis retailers and processors sign a labor peace agreement and agree to remain neutral with regard to labor organizing in order to obtain a license in Oregon.*

## BACKGROUND

It is estimated that 7,671 people work in the Oregon cannabis industry.

In Oregon, employees' bargaining rights are generally governed by Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 663, which guarantees the right to self-organization, strike, collective bargaining through representatives, and joining a union. Employees also have the right not to engage in these activities, except if membership is required as a condition of employment. Most employers may not interfere with, restrain or coerce employees in the exercise of these rights. Enforcement of these rules is in the hands of the Oregon Labor Relations Board.

Nationally, the same rights are guaranteed to many workers. The rights are enforced by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). However, because cannabis is an illegal industry on the federal level, many employers are treating cannabis workers seeking to exercise unionization rights as being in an ambiguous status with respect to the NLRB, which has no defined classifications for cannabis workers and may

regard them as agricultural workers, who do not have the same unionization rights.

Out of a concern that cannabis workers' ambiguous status and misclassification with respect to the NLRB was allowing unsafe workplaces, wage theft, and other problems, United Food and Commercial Workers 555, Oregon's largest private-sector labor union, proposed Oregon House Bill 3183 in 2023. This bill was considered but did not pass in the Oregon Legislature due to concerns about conflicts with federal law. Now, in a further effort to protect workers' rights in the cannabis industry, Measure 119 has been proposed.

## PROPOSAL

Under Measure 119, the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission would require cannabis retailers and processors to enter into a labor peace agreement with a labor organization in order to get a state license. Once this agreement is signed, the cannabis retailer or processor agrees to remain neutral when union representatives communicate with employees about their collective bargaining rights.

Failure to have a signed labor peace agreement or failure to follow the agreement may result in penalties, including fines or the denial, suspension, or revocation of the retailer's or processor's license or certificate to sell or process cannabis.

If the labor peace agreement is terminated, the licensee must notify the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission within ten days and enter into a new agreement within thirty days. If the licensee does not submit a new labor peace agreement within 30 days, then under Measure 119 the commission can suspend their license for 30 days or impose a \$1,650 fine.



## SUPPORTERS SAY

- If passed, this measure would ensure that cannabis workers' freedoms to organize and collectively bargain are protected under state law by closing a loophole that currently deprives Oregon cannabis workers of the right to unionization.
- Currently, Oregon cannabis workers have significant challenges when it comes to voicing concerns about safety and product standards. This includes problems with toxic chemicals in cannabis growing processes, unchecked safety concerns, and a lack of proper PPE in the industry, which leads to compromised worker and consumer safety. Because of inadequate labor protections, those who attempt to raise these issues do not come forward and continue to work under unsafe conditions.
- California, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and Virginia have similar requirements for licensed cannabis businesses. Measure 119 will allow Oregon cannabis workers to have the same protections as workers in other states.



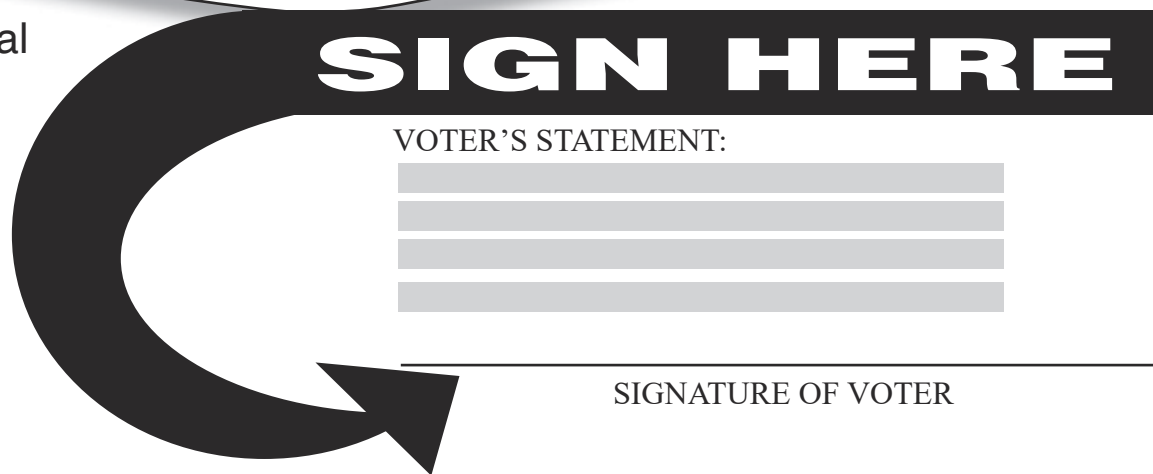
## OPPONENTS SAY

- By requiring cannabis employers to remain neutral on union communication, Measure 119 would make them forfeit their rights to inform workers about facts about a union that the employers know to be true, including the employers' experience with the unions and their opinions about them.
- Under the National Labor Relations Act, states may not require private employers to enter into labor peace agreements unless a state is acting as a market participant by being either a party to a contract with a private business or purchasing its goods. There are no provisions of Measure 119 that concern the state as a party to the contract, which means that this Measure would violate federal law.
- The labor peace agreement that Measure 119 requires is one-sided in favor of the workers, because it requires cannabis businesses to remain neutral on communications from labor organizations and requires labor organizations to give up nothing.

# Before You Return Your Ballot!

## Did you sign the back of the return envelope on the signature line?

Voters may return their ballots by mail or in person at an official drop site. Your ballot must be postmarked by Election Day, November 5, to be counted. Alternatively, voters should use one of the official drop sites, which will be available until 8:00 PM on Election Day, **November 5, 2024.**



# CANDIDATES

Candidate names are listed in the random alphabetical order provided by the Oregon Secretary of State Elections Division office.

## U.S. President

Term: 4 Years  
Salary: \$400,000

To view information about these candidates, and any responses to questions provided to them by the League of Women Voters of the United States, visit [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) online.

## U.S. House of Representatives

Term: 2 Years  
Salary: \$174,000

How would you change Social Security to improve its long-term viability?

What changes in national immigration policy, if any, would you support?

What changes, if any, would you support in Congress to address the issue of climate change?

### District 1

#### Democrat



**Suzanne Bonamici**  
[bonamiciforcongress.com](http://bonamiciforcongress.com)

Everyone deserves to live with dignity and respect as they age, which is why a secure retirement and earned benefits like Social Security are important. I have strongly opposed efforts to privatize Social Security and end Medicare as we know it, efforts that would impose extra costs on older Americans. I am a vocal advocate for giving Social Security recipients a cost-of-living adjustment, so their payments keep up with rising costs of housing, medication, and other basic needs. We can bolster Social Security by raising or lifting the cap. I am a cosponsor of the Social Security 2100 Act, which includes increasing benefits for current and future beneficiaries and creating a new minimum benefit so no one retires with poverty-level benefits.

We need compassionate and comprehensive immigration policy. Immigrants make our country better, and I do not support the hateful targeting and harmful rhetoric directed toward the immigrant community. I support protecting Dreamers and their families, a path to citizenship, and improvements to the asylum system, including the removal of any unfair, burdensome, or unnecessary restrictions to those coming to our country who are seeking asylum.

The climate crisis is an existential threat and a national emergency. Congress must take meaningful action to reduce emissions and transition to a clean energy economy. Because the climate crisis disproportionately affects low-income and BIPOC communities, we need a just transition with the creation of more good jobs – including for people historically left behind. I will continue to work in Congress to take urgent action to reduce emissions and protect our planet for generations to come. Additionally, I have championed legislation to address ocean acidification and marine debris, and I'm working to prevent heat-related illnesses and deaths.

#### Republican

**Bob Todd**  
[bobtodd.com](http://bobtodd.com)

I would make sure that the Social Security Insurance Fund was used solely for its intended purposes.

I would make it a felony to cross the border illegally and a forfeiture of any future citizenship. I believe in international intervention and prevention of the cause of the illegal immigration, and massive immigration law reform to make it more equitable for everyone.

I would push for an international ban on weather modification in the same stream of thought as has been done with nuclear and biological weapons treaties.



# U.S. House of Representatives - continued

Term: 2 Years  
Salary: \$174,000

How would you change Social Security to improve its long-term viability?

What changes in national immigration policy, if any, would you support?

What changes, if any, would you support in Congress to address the issue of climate change?

## District 1 - continued

Libertarian



**Joe Christman**  
[joeforcongress2024.com](http://joeforcongress2024.com)

I do not think it is realistically sustainable. I'd lean towards supporting a slow phased privatization. We don't want to be throwing the elderly on the streets, but we also have to accept the system is not sustainable.

I think Americans have a right to know who's coming in, so border security should be increased. But, this must not become an excuse for policing abuses.

America's immigration system should serve existing American citizens, not harm them. Thus, legal immigration should primarily focus around things like family unification, not economic issues. Economic immigration should only be allowed in exceptional circumstances, and not being willing to spend enough money to hire existing American citizens isn't an exceptional circumstance.

I don't think this is the job of the Federal government. That said, greatly decreasing the size of the military and bombs dropped on foreign countries would probably help reduce CO2.

## District 2

Republican

**Cliff S Bentz**

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

Constitution

**Michael Kurt Stettler**

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

Democrat, Progressive

*Candidate did not answer question*

*Candidate did not answer question*



**Dan Ruby**  
[ruby4or.com](http://ruby4or.com)

Climate change is a major threat to our national and global well-being; I would work on and support legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote alternative energy and transportation infrastructure and workforce, and educate students and the public in science

## U.S. House of Representatives - *continued*

Term: 2 Years  
Salary: \$174,000

How would you change Social Security to improve its long-term viability?

What changes in national immigration policy, if any, would you support?

What changes, if any, would you support in Congress to address the issue of climate change?

### District 3

Progressive, Independent

David W Walker

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

#### Pacific Green



**Joe Meyer**  
[joe4us.org](http://joe4us.org)

Social Security is essential to our democracy and to my retirement plan; the US Government must improve its long-term viability.

The fact of the matter is that our Red and Blue political parties have been whittling away at regular citizens for decades: since Reagan 50 trillion dollars of wealth has been transferred to the wealthiest 1%.

Social Security is a minimum safety net and we cannot allow corporate red and corporate blue to take this slowly away.

We can guarantee Social Security by 1) abolishing the maximum taxable wage, (which gets us 2/3 of the way to viable,) and 2) using a wealth tax to make up the difference.

US immigration policy must conform with international law, like the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol. This means no more family separations, no more refoulement, and no more inhumane holding facilities.

We need to disconnect the profit motive from prisons, including immigration detention. We-the-people are ultimately responsible for how people are treated in US detention: we need to stop outsourcing this grave responsibility.

We need to stop creating a refugee crises. We need to allow Southern democracies to thrive, even if they want to nationalize their oil; even if they have health care for all and free dental.

The first rule of government is to do no harm. In this case this means ending the billions of dollars of subsidies to big oil. Additionally, the US military is a top world emitter of green house gasses: there is no reigning in climate change without reigning in the US military. Let's start closing the 800 foreign bases we have around the world. Let's downsize the military relieving them from protecting corporate profits to concentrated on defense, of protecting US citizens.

A University of Stanford study shows that it would cost 1.7 trillion dollars to build enough solar panels to supply all of US energy needs. That is a lot of money and less than 2 years of department of defense war costs.

We need to respond to the climate emergency with a Manhattan-meets-Civilian-Conservation-Corps project to convert the US to renewables and rebuild our rail system.

I want to take a fast train from Portland to DC on electric tracks powered by wind and solar all along the way.

#### Constitution



**David K Frosch**  
[davidfrosch.com](http://davidfrosch.com)

I would eliminate the cap on the tax that funds Social Security. The wealthy are not currently paying their fair share into the program. Social Security is a much relied upon public assistance program for the aged. I will always support expansion of benefits and new revenue streams for this program over cuts to it.

Illegal immigration takes jobs away from the law abiding, ratchets up local taxes, and makes a joke of our laws and institutions. No one wants to sacrifice for a country that seeks to replace them and their family.

I would make employers use the e-verify service provided by the government to block economic migrants from taking American jobs. Access to our universities must be carefully guarded so our technology is not ripped out of our hands. And generous scholarships need to be offered to American students so that fewer tech visas need to be issued. Self-sufficiency has always been the American ideal.

I support a tax on those households with an income over \$100,000 annually to fund new renewable energy. Solar panels would be available to low-income homeowners first and move on from there.

Transportation is a huge part of the carbon problem in the earth's atmosphere. Alternative transportation and EV tax credits need to be expanded. And sweet heart tax breaks for oil companies need to end so that the public no longer subsidizes their profits.

## U.S. House of Representatives - *continued*

**Term:** 2 Years  
**Salary:** \$174,000

How would you change Social Security to improve its long-term viability?

What changes in national immigration policy, if any, would you support?

What changes, if any, would you support in Congress to address the issue of climate change?

### District 3 - *continued*

Republican

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*



**Joanna Harbour**  
*joanna4oregon.com*

Democrat

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*



**Maxine E Dexter**  
*maxinefororegon.com*

### District 4

Libertarian

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

**Dan Bahlen**

Pacific Green

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

**Justin Filip**

## U.S. House of Representatives - *continued*

Term: 2 Years  
Salary: \$174,000

How would you change Social Security to improve its long-term viability?

What changes in national immigration policy, if any, would you support?

What changes, if any, would you support in Congress to address the issue of climate change?

### District 4 - *continued*

#### Democrat



**Val Hoyle**  
*valhoyle.com*

Social Security is not an entitlement. It has been earned and we need to preserve it into the future. My first bill in Congress vowed to expand Social Security benefits by \$2,400 a year and ensure Social Security is fully funded for the next 75 years—all without raising taxes by one penny on over 93% of American households that make \$250,000 or less. It also changes the formula used to calculate Cost of Living Adjustments to ensure it more adequately addresses Social Security recipients' spending needs, while scrapping the payroll tax cap to ensure the wealthy pay their fair share, just like everyone else.

Congress should pursue bipartisan solutions for immigration and border security reforms. I'm a cosponsor of the DIGNIDAD Act, bipartisan legislation that would enact important reforms to modernize our immigration system and protect our southern border. I also strongly support the bipartisan border security investments that President Biden negotiated with Senate Republicans to enhance border security, including hiring additional law enforcement personnel to address increased migrant encounters at the southern border. We must focus on solutions beyond enforcement, including funding and reforms to modernize our immigration system, close backlogs, and ensure migrants and their families are treated with dignity, respect, and human rights.

My focus when I got to Congress was to discard the old "jobs vs the environment" framing that has been used for decades to divide people. I have pledged to oppose any new investments in fossil fuel infrastructure in Congress. I'm a cosponsor of the Climate Emergency Resolution, which directs the President to use all possible legal authority to address climate change like the emergency it is. I also support investments that Democrats made in last year's Inflation Reduction Act to increase clean energy deployment and create high-quality jobs—thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act, we have created 550,000 new jobs in the clean energy sector and America is on track to decrease greenhouse gas emissions by about 40% from 2005 levels.

#### Republican, Constitution



**Monique DeSpain**  
*moniqueforcongress.com*

My priority for our social security program is to honor the promise made to those in the program as well as those nearing the program. We must honor the original intent which is, in its simplest terms, to provide federal assistance to the elderly, the unemployed, widows and fatherless children. The administration of social security is not so simple now and has fallen to abuse and waste. All federal programs, and the agencies that run them, must be transparent and held accountable to deliver on their core purpose and must be audited. Social security must remain funded and managed for success. A return to a healthy economy, including slashing inflation, is essential to the well-being of our elderly and poor who rely on social security.

Ensuring and maintaining our nation's border is an urgent, constant, national security interest and core function of our federal government that must not be compromised. Our immigration system, and its reform, is a separate and equally important challenge for America. A healthy immigration system that serves our national interests was best summarized by the late Representative Barbara Jordan in 1995 who said, "Those who should get in, get in; those who should be kept out, are kept out. [...]" It is my goal to expeditiously deliver a credible, reliable, enforceable immigration system to those who legally seek to live and work here. There is much work to be done. See my website for more.

There is no doubt humans have a significant impact on the planet earth and surrounding environments. I feel strongly we should be responsible stewards of all our natural resources by managing them respectfully, intelligently, and dealing always in fact-based science and experience. I am a staunch advocate for energy choice and responsibly developing new clean affordable energy options. We are innovative resourceful people who should not abandon science, commonsense, economic realities and the well-being of entire communities in the pursuit of political agendas. I support an "all of the above" energy strategy that strives for scientifically based clean energy choices that are affordable and end reliance on other nations.



# U.S. House of Representatives - *continued*

**Term:** 2 Years  
**Salary:** \$174,000

**How would you change Social Security to improve its long-term viability?**

**What changes in national immigration policy, if any, would you support?**

**What changes, if any, would you support in Congress to address the issue of climate change?**

## District 5

### Democrat



**Janelle S Bynum**  
*janellebynum.com*

For starters, I will never support privatizing Social Security or raising the retirement age. As the President said, Social Security is a “sacred trust,” and protecting its viability is critical for seniors and future generations.

That starts by requiring millionaires and billionaires to pay their fair share, generating additional revenue without burdening regular taxpayers. Also, protecting and enhancing benefits for those who rely on Social Security is crucial including accurate cost-of-living adjustments and additional support for low-income and vulnerable individuals.

In Congress, I’ll put my experience to work and fight for a Social Security system that is fair, sustainable and protected for generations to come.

It’s past time for Congress to act on immigration, but with Donald Trump calling the shots for MAGA Republicans, real progress on immigration reform has been blocked. My approach emphasizes creating a pathway to citizenship, protecting rights of asylum seekers and implementing humane and fair immigration policies. I want to ensure that our border operations have the resources they need and that our immigration system can process hearings that are fast, fair and final.

As a State Representative, I have engaged with local communities and organizations and will continue to do so in congress to work towards crafting comprehensive immigration policy prioritizes compassion, fairness, and pragmatism.

The climate crisis is at our doorstep and our state is constantly under the threat of wildfires and extreme weather.

In the state legislature, I’ve worked to do something about it, supporting innovative policies that not only protect our environment from climate change, but create new jobs. I’ve voted to strengthen clean air laws and permanently ban offshore drilling along our coast, and I’ve worked to expand investments in renewable energy and a green economy.

There’s so much more work to be done. In Congress, I’ll be a fierce advocate in the fight against climate change.

### Pacific Green

**Andrea Thorn Townsend**

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

### Republican

**Lori Chavez-DeRemer**

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

### Libertarian



**Sonja Feintech**  
*sonja4oregon.com*

Social security represents a tax on the people that is not voluntary and often is predatory. As a libertarian I believe engagement with government programs should be voluntary. I would be in favor of rolling back the compulsory, monolithic government program that is our social security program.

Our current legal immigration process is broken, failing and bogged down by bureaucracy. America is a country of immigrants and we should be prepared to receive legal immigrants with a well vetted, efficient process. We currently have mass illegal immigration which puts a burden on American tax payers and rising concerns about the lack of proper vetting. I would support steps to secure the border while we also work on fixing our poor immigration process.

Climate change is a natural phenomenon; any contributions from fossil fuel use are massively offset by the quality of life improvements afforded to people of every economic class by their use. Congress should stop picking winners and losers in the energy industry, starting by ending subsidies and regulations that get in the way of providing consumers with more options for clean, healthy energy.

## U.S. House of Representatives - *continued*

**Term:** 2 Years  
**Salary:** \$174,000

**How would you change Social Security to improve its long-term viability?**

**What changes in national immigration policy, if any, would you support?**

**What changes, if any, would you support in Congress to address the issue of climate change?**

### District 5 - *continued*

**Independent**



**Brett Smith**  
*brett-smith.us*

I would implement a transactional tax on trades and exchanges. One of the biggest issues with taxing the top earners is that they don't use their own money. For example, if someone can use let's say, Tesla stock to get a loan for it's perceived value to buy, Oh I don't know... Twitter. I would tax that exchange a small percentage of the perceived value of the stock.

I would like to see this country become a hub for immigration. Not only would I reassess the barriers to entry, but I would propose having a robust and secure border policy that we could facilitate immigration with our allies. For example Japan has a shrinking population in rural agricultural areas. Having experienced farm workers immigrating from our southern boarder to help with the work and the population problem there would be beneficial to everyone.

Our government needs to invest in small inventors and entrepreneurs. New technologies get swallowed up by large corporations and sat upon for profit sake.

### District 6

**Republican**

**Mike Erickson**

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

**Democrat, Independent**



**Andrea Salinas**  
*andreasalinasfororegon.com*

Social Security is a cornerstone of our social safety net, giving families the tools and security they need to get through hard times, and allowing seniors to retire with dignity and peace of mind. That's why I am committed to not only protecting Social Security but improving it for current enrollees and future generations. Tens of millions of seniors, including hundreds of thousands of Oregonians, have paid into these programs for years, and they should be off the table when we talk about spending cuts.

We need to pass and sign into law the Social Security 2100 Act, a bill that I'm proud to cosponsor. This legislation would secure Social Security's financial solvency for decades to come by ensuring millionaires and billionaires pay their fair share of taxes, as well as improving Social Security benefits like the Cost-of-Living Adjustment and benefit rates for seniors enrolled in the program for 15-plus years. The bill also closes several loopholes that make it difficult for seniors,

As the daughter of a Mexican immigrant, I'm a strong believer that we must be a nation that welcomes immigrants and those seeking refuge. However, I also believe we must do so in a way that prioritizes safety and humanity for all, including border communities who are reeling from an untenable surge in crossings. I know we can make our border communities safe and reform our immigration system to make the process orderly and to give undocumented immigrants living and working in the U.S. certainty for their futures.

First and foremost, we need to implement comprehensive immigration reform that includes a pathway to legal status for undocumented immigrants, especially for Dreamers, who contribute so much to our economy and to our communities. Last year, a bipartisan group of negotiators put together an immigration and border security package that had a real chance of moving in this Congress. It was by no means perfect, and I had issues with its contents, but I was supportive of the effort

Climate change is an existential crisis that threatens our economy and our very existence. It is incumbent on the federal government, working collaboratively with public and private partners, both nationally and globally, to take actions to mitigate and adapt to the climate crisis.

As a former board member of the Oregon League of Conservation Voters, and former member of the Oregon State Legislature, I have sponsored and co-sponsored numerous bills to address the climate crisis and protect our environment, including efforts to protect wildlife and our children from toxic chemicals. I've worked hard to establish environmental justice principles for Oregon. Additionally, I have worked to stop new fossil fuel development on our state lands and incentivized the use of solar power.

As a freshman Member of Congress I have prioritized tackling the climate crisis through the Committees on which I serve, the House Agriculture and Science Space and Technology (SST) Committees. This year, I

# Secretary of State

Term: 4 Years  
Salary: \$77,000

What qualifications and experience make you the best candidate for Secretary of State?

What are your priorities for the State Land Board?

What would be the impact on election processes and resources of adopting ranked-choice voting?

Pacific Green

Nathalie Paravicini

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

Republican

Dennis Linthicum

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

Democrat,  
Independent



**Tobias Reed**  
[tobiasread.com](http://tobiasread.com)

My experience turning good ideas into results as a statewide leader sets me apart in this race. With OregonSaves, I transformed a concept into a program now serving more than 120,000 people who have saved over \$240 million dollars for retirement. As Treasurer, I've led a staff of nearly 200 people while managing a portfolio of \$130+ billion dollars. I'm running for Secretary of State because our democracy is at stake—with increased attacks against election workers and widespread misinformation, it's critical that we restore public trust in our elections process. Having a Secretary of State that voters trust will improve the effectiveness of everything else that we do.

The primary obligation of the Land Board is to maintain the "greatest permanent value" of our resources. I'm proud to have maintained the balance between conservation and economic development as a member of the Land Board for the last seven years. Our creativity helped convert the Elliott into North America's largest research forest. I will continue to advocate for innovative solutions while maintaining our long-term focus. A key element of this work is to consider the impacts of our decisions on the people who live, work, study, and recreate in these spaces, now and in the future. As a member of the State Land Board, I regularly speak with stakeholders throughout our processes and will continue to do so as Secretary of State.

Over the past six months, I have met with 23 of Oregon's county clerks to hear about their experiences managing our elections. The clerks have been very clear that they would need significant support from the state to successfully implement ranked-choice voting, as it would drastically alter our current system to be centralized with a singular statewide count. Without the proper infrastructure, this process could take significantly more time to deliver results than our current system.

As Secretary of State, I will work closely with the county clerks and leaders in the state legislature to ensure that any changes made to our elections system are matched with the resources required to implement them successfully.

## Did you know you can get alternate ballot formats?

Call **866-ORE-VOTE**  
(1-866-673-8683) for information from the  
State Elections Division.

Nonprofit Disability Rights Oregon serves  
the disabled community.  
Call **1-800-452-1694**.

# State Treasurer

Term: 4 Years  
Salary: \$77,000

What government reforms, if any, would you support to improve Oregon's fiscal strength?

What is your vision on how, if at all, Oregon should use its power to invest its holdings in an effort to affect climate change?

What, if any, reforms to Oregon's Public Employment Retirement System (PERS) would you support?

## Progressive, Working Families



**Mary King**  
[marykingwfp.com](http://marykingwfp.com)

Oregon's economy is bigger than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the world's countries. We have the resources and responsibility to do better for housing, schools, childcare, health care, youth employment, gun safety, fighting climate change and building climate resilience. We should bond more and raise more revenue, by some mix of higher income tax rates for the very affluent, a 1% wealth tax on financial assets above \$30 million and ending excessive tax deductions for mortgage interest on enormous or second homes. We should ensure that polluters pay for damages, clean up and invest in ways to reduce the risks they're running. Unless we require risk bonds or other financial coverage, we'll all be on the hook for the imminent catastrophe from toxic chemicals stored on the banks of the lower Willamette – as well as wildfires, earthquakes, train derailments and other disasters around the state. Last, we should let trees grow much older in our State Forests, selling carbon credits to help fund rural schools.

We should immediately start phasing Oregon's \$140 billion in investments out of fossil fuels. The current Treasury's plan for zero net emissions anticipates getting there by 2050 - a generation from now. We don't have that kind of time. By divesting sooner, we'll get top dollar for our current holdings, rather than waiting until the prices of fossil fuels stocks fall as more and more people and organizations realize how risky it is to be holding fossil fuels stocks as climate change advances. Fossil fuels companies will be left with a lot of stranded assets. We can do better by investing in Oregon and Oregonians, in the new, booming, clean energy sector and in other industries that will support climate resilience. Another critical strategy is to create a state bank to collaborate with community banks around the state. Significant federal dollars are available to finance green start-ups, and a state bank can support students, farmers, small businesses and economic development.

The legislature historically underfunded the PERS system, hiding that fact by pretending it would be possible to earn unrealistic returns. As a result, PERS is significantly over-invested in "corporate raider" private equity, tempted by promises of high payouts once created by purchasing firms with debt, saddling them with that debt, selling their assets, understaffing and damaging the quality of the health care, childcare, housing and every other sector they moved into. Now private equity is not even paying out, and the shortfall is coming out of our school, university and other public agency budgets – shortchanging students, teachers and all Oregonians. To ensure dignified retirements for all public employees, we should (1) cap the absurdly high payouts to football coaches and university presidents and (2) raise revenue for PERS investments that don't rely on destructive business practices, but create good, family wage jobs for Oregonians.

## Republican, Constitution



**Brian J Boquist**

Oregon funds are not meeting their goals nor improving the deficit position. Nor are the funds performing even near to the market for some reason. It is not a matter of reform but a matter of research, review and changing the portfolio to improve returns and sustainability.

PERS participants and recipients have requested the funds be invested to maximize investment returns. Proven investments in environmental holdings that meet this requirement should be considered when fiscally sustainable and viable.

Diversify into more Oregon based businesses and holdings reducing international risks such as seen in Europe at this time.



## State Treasurer - *continued*

**Term:** 4 Years  
**Salary:** \$77,000

**What government reforms, if any, would you support to improve Oregon's fiscal strength?**

**What is your vision on how, if at all, Oregon should use its power to invest its holdings in an effort to affect climate change?**

**What, if any, reforms to Oregon's Public Employment Retirement System (PERS) would you support?**

### Democrat



**Elizabeth Steiner**  
*elizabethfororegon.com*

The answer is twofold: supporting the strength of our state investments, and lifting up Oregonians' financial security to enhance their economic well being. On the state side, I'll protect our credit rating by improving the strength of our pension while investing according to Oregon values. To improve Oregonian's fiscal strength, I will expand Oregon Saves, create a voluntary savings program to help Oregonians prepare for emergencies, and increase the use of 529 plans for the vast majority of Oregon children to save for higher education. I also plan to partner with unions, faith communities, and other interested stakeholders to enhance financial literacy. Our state is strongest when everyone has the tools and knowledge they need to succeed.

As Treasurer, I'll act decisively to address climate change and mitigate climate-related risk. I strongly believe our state's portfolio should be invested according to Oregon values – this past session I chief sponsored the COAL Act, divesting Oregon from \$1 billion in coal investments. I'm committed to moving Oregon's investment portfolio to net-zero carbon emissions while maintaining fiduciary responsibility. I'm deeply appreciative of Treasurer Tobias Read for putting this goal in place, and I'm interested in finding ways to speed up the timeline. I'll also strengthen our portfolio against indirect climate risk to ensure worker pensions are protected, and I'll use our strength as an investor to push brown companies to be greener.

Oregonians who dedicate their careers to public service deserve a quality retirement. I don't believe there should be further changes to current benefits. I'm grateful for the endorsements I've received from unions representing municipal workers, health care workers, fire fighters, teachers, and many others in the public and private sectors – they know that as Treasurer, protecting and growing our state pension fund will be my top priority. I will make smart investments based on Oregon values, increase transparency in Oregon's shareholder voting, increase worker engagement in where we decide to invest their money, and set stronger guidelines on environmental, social, and corporate governance reforms for the companies in our portfolio.

## What's My District?

Go to [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org)

Enter your address.

Click Submit

Then, choose Language

Then, scroll through offices to find your districts



# Attorney General - State of Oregon

**Term:** 4 Years  
**Salary:** \$82,220

**What are your top priorities for the state Justice Department?**

**How can the state Justice Department contribute to fighting drug trafficking and abuse?**

**What, if any, changes would you suggest to the conflict of interest rules applicable to the Attorney General?**

## Republican



**Will Lathrop**  
[willlathrop.com](http://willlathrop.com)

1. Reduce the prevalence of drugs and hold drug traffickers accountable. Drug cartels are profiting millions of dollars by exploiting those struggling with addiction, crushing families across Oregon. The prevalence of fentanyl in our state has left a growing population vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.

2. Restore safe communities and support law enforcement. Oregon is suffering under a cloud of crime and people don't feel safe. I've dedicated my career to protecting children and vulnerable populations from crime. As Oregon's next Attorney General, I will work collaboratively with state, local, and federal law enforcement to keep our communities safe.

3. Restore trust in government and enforce Oregon's corruption laws. We need to ensure there is accountability when taxpayer dollars are allocated towards solving a problem. As Oregon's next Attorney General, I will enforce a zero-tolerance policy for misuse of public office and misuse of public funds.

By statute, the Attorney General is in charge of investigating organized crime in Oregon which includes drug trafficking, human trafficking, organized retail theft, online exploitation of children, racketeering, money laundering, etc. The Department of Justice is supposed to build a collective strategy for law enforcement across the state and to collaborate with federal and international law enforcement agencies to reduce the inflow of drugs into Oregon. The Oregon DOJ has largely failed in that capacity over the last decade. I have dedicated my entire career to public safety and protecting victims from exploitation and violence. I am uniquely qualified to lead a collaborative, multi-state effort to greatly reduce the supply of illegal drugs flowing into Oregon and to hold drug traffickers accountable. My top priority will be to reduce the prevalence of drug trafficking in our state.

Conflict of interest rules, as applied to the office of the Attorney General, are guided by a complex tapestry of (centuries old) common law, Oregon case law, and Oregon legislative statutes. When I am elected as the Attorney General, I will inherit that tapestry of rules, and will follow the law. I am hesitant to suggest changes to those rules because such changes are within the purview of the legislature and the court, and my advocacy could be seen, in and of itself, as a conflict of interest.

## Democrat



**Dan Rayfield**  
[danrayfield.com](http://danrayfield.com)

Three overarching goals will focus our work. First, we'll work to protect Oregonian's values & policies from national threats. Examples include threats to our reproductive health care, collective bargaining, & vote-by-mail system. The second is to expand the work of the Civil Enforcement Division to ensure enforcement of the laws that protect our values & protect vulnerable Oregonians. Modeling off of other states' work, we envision this happening through creating a Working Families Unit to focus on protections like wage theft, misclassification, and child labor. Finally, we will focus on partnering with law enforcement & criminal justice reform advocates to keep our communities safe & help combat homelessness & substance abuse disorder.

The Attorney General plays a critical role in combatting drug trafficking and abuse. We will work closely with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, we can ensure a coordinated effort in disrupting and dismantling drug trafficking networks. This includes sharing intelligence, leveraging resources for complex investigations, and prioritizing the prosecution of drug dealers.

We've heard some concerns and many ideas regarding potential conflicts of interest issues when it comes to things like contracting, procurement, and case reviews. We are committed to conducting a comprehensive review of all of these processes to identify and implement structures to address any potential concerns.

# Judge of the Oregon Supreme Court

**Term:** 6 Years  
**Salary:**  
**Chief Justice** \$217,908  
**Each**  
**Other Judge** \$213,828

What would you like the public to know about the qualities necessary for a good judge?

When do you consider precedent binding? Please explain.

How does Oregon's court system need to be improved?

## Position 1



**Stephen K Bushong**  
[retainjusticebushong.com](http://retainjusticebushong.com)

A good judge must be committed to applying the rule of law fairly and equally in every case. A judge's oath is a promise to make decisions that are grounded in principle based on the facts and the law, not on any outside influences or political pressures. A justice on the Oregon Supreme Court must work collaboratively with other members of the court and be open to considering other points of view. A justice must also write clear, understandable decisions that provide guidance to lower courts and the public. Finally, all judges must work to improve our system of justice so that we can fully realize our constitution's promise of liberty and justice for all.

On the Oregon Supreme Court, we are bound by precedents from the United States Supreme Court on issues of federal law. On issues of state law, we are bound only by the Oregon Supreme Court's prior decisions. We have the authority to overrule or modify those prior decisions, but we should exercise that authority very rarely and only when we are firmly convinced that overruling prior precedent is appropriate under the standards established by the court for overruling precedent and that overruling precedent is required to protect and serve the people of Oregon.

We need to improve our system of providing lawyers for people accused of crimes who cannot afford to hire one. Our current system of providing counsel for indigent criminal defendants is in crisis. In addition, a large part of the need for legal services in family law, juvenile, landlord/tenant, and other cases is unmet because of limited resources. We also need to improve the consistency and timeliness of court decisions in our trial and appellate courts. Improving judicial education and securing sufficient resources to meet the public's need for court services would help. And we could do a better job educating the public about the judicial branch of government.

## Position 7

**Bronson D James**

*The candidate did not respond by the print deadline.*

## Look for more information on candidates at [www.lwvor.org/vote](http://www.lwvor.org/vote)

*The National (US) League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) manages the voters' guide information for candidates for US President and shares this information with State League of Women Voters chapters. The LWVEF's guidelines are:*

- All qualified presidential candidates were invited to provide biographical information and responses to specific questions. Candidates were qualified if they met the following criteria during the primary season: 1. The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for President; 2. The candidate must meet the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act's minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the FEC website by the date of publication.*
- Responses were limited to a specific number of characters and were truncated thereafter.*
- If a candidate did not respond by the date of publication, "The candidate did not respond by the print deadline." is printed.*

*Additional information on presidential candidates is available at [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org).*

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# Acknowledgements

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Our membership is open to all persons, ages 16 and up. If you are interested, see [lwvor.org/become-a-member](http://lwvor.org/become-a-member). There are Leagues in many communities around the state. You can contact us at [lwvor@lwvor.org](mailto:lwvor@lwvor.org), or by mail at:

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