

2025 Synopsis of Oregon Election Laws

Laws enacted by the 83rd Legislative Assembly during the 2025 Regular Session
Synopsis compiled by the Secretary of State, Elections Division



Secretary of State

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House Bills

Bill No.	Summary	Page
HB 2464	Alphabetizes definitions in ORS 253.005. Effective January 1, 2026.	8
HB 3127	Requires medical certifiers and medical examiners to electronically report deaths to OHA, Center for Health Statistics. Effective January 1, 2026.	4
HB 3474	Requires the Secretary of State to study changes to USPS. Effective January 1, 2026.	11
HB 3687	Prohibits a supermajority vote requirement for any amendment of a county or city charter. Effective September 26, 2025.	10
HB 3908	Increases party registration requirement to be a major political party from five percent to 10 percent. Effective July 1, 2025.	5

Senate Bills

Bill No.	Summary	Page
SB 95	Creates new circuit court judge positions in certain judicial districts. Effective on passage; operative January 1, 2026.	10
SB 166	Changes the terminology used to describe persons permitted to practice law in Oregon from “member” to “licensee.” Effective January 1, 2026.	10
SB 224	Prohibits publication of residence address of individuals affiliated with a political committee. Effective January 1, 2026; operative January 1, 2027.	9
SB 578	Establishes the dates by which a candidate or their agent must file a portrait and statement for inclusion in a county voters' pamphlet. Effective September 26, 2025.	7
SB 580	Requires county and city filing officers to update their website to include candidacy filing and withdrawal information and forms. Effective September 26, 2025.	6
SB 952	Changes process to fill a vacancy in the office of United States Senator. Effective January 1, 2026.	10
SB 1014	Allows political parties to submit translated voters' pamphlet filings. Effective January 1, 2026.	7

ORS Chapter 247

Qualification and Registration of Electors

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
247.570	HB 3127	3	Amend	Requires medical certifiers and medical examiners to electronically report deaths to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Center for Health Statistics. Continues to require county registrars to notify county clerk of death reports within five business days and continues to require OHA and the Secretary of State to provide monthly death lists. Effective January 1, 2026.

ORS Chapter 248

Political Parties; Presidential Electors

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
248.006	HB 3908	1	Amend	Increases party registration requirement to be a major political party from five percent to 10 percent of voters registered in the state.
Effective July 1, 2025.				

ORS Chapter 249

Candidates; Recall

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
249.006	SB 580	1	Amend	Requires county and city filing officers to update their website to include candidacy filing and withdrawal information and forms by the following deadlines: - Within five business days of receiving a nominating petition or declaration of candidacy: publish candidate name and the office they are filing for on county or city website; - Within two business days of determining candidate is qualified for the office: publish candidacy filing form on county or city website*; - Within two business days of receiving a withdrawal form: publish withdrawal form on county or city website. If the filing officer does not make the information or forms available on their website, the filing officer must provide the information and forms upon request according to the following: - Must provide the information or form within five business days; - If record is provided digitally, filing officer may not charge a fee; - If record is viewed in person, filing officer may not charge a fee; - If a physical copy of the record is provided, filing officer may charge a fee in accordance with their fee schedule. *This is the only requirement not applicable to candidates for Precinct Committeeperson (PCP). Filing officers must list PCP candidate names and withdrawal information on their website.

Effective September 26, 2025.

ORS Chapter 251

Voters' Pamphlet

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
251.335	SB 578	1	Amend	Establishes the timeframe during which a candidate or their agent may file a portrait and statement for inclusion in a county voters' pamphlet in primary and generally elections. For a primary election, the portrait and statement must be filed not sooner than the 120th day and not later than the 68th day before the primary election. For a general election, the portrait and statement must be filed not sooner than the 120th day and not later than the 70th day before the general election. Requires the Secretary of State to promulgate rules to establish the timeframe for other elections. Effective September 26, 2025.
251.170	SB 1014	1	Amend	Allows political parties to file translations of statement of argument filings. The translated statements of arguments must be in one of the five most commonly spoken languages in the state, other than English, as listed by the Secretary of State. Effective January 1, 2026, and applies to voters' pamphlets distributed on or after January 31, 2026.

ORS Chapter 253

Absent Electors

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
253.005	HB 2464	12	Amend	Reorganizes definitions in ORS 253.005 alphabetically.
Effective January 1, 2026.				

ORS Chapter 260

Campaign Finance Regulations; Election Offenses

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
260.057	SB 224	1	Amend	Prohibits the Secretary of State from disclosing on the Oregon Election System for Tracking and Reporting (ORESTAR) the residence address of any individual associated with a Candidate Committee, Political Action Committee, or Petition Committee unless the individual directs the Secretary to disclose it. Residences addresses continue to be a public record subject to inspection under ORS 192.314. Effective January 1, 2026; operative January 1, 2027.

Statutes Outside Election Law

ORS	Bill No.	Section	Action	Synopsis
3.012	SB 95	1-2	Amend	Increases the number of circuit court judge positions in the 2nd Judicial District (Lane County) from 15 to 17. Increases the number of circuit court judge positions in the 5th Judicial District (Clackamas County) from 12 to 13. Increases the number of circuit court judge positions in the 16th Judicial District (Douglas County) from five to six. Effective January 1, 2026.
3.050, 51.245	SB 166	65, 76	Amend	Changes the terminology used to describe persons permitted to practice law in Oregon from “member” to “licensee.” Updates candidate qualifications to include updated terminology. Effective January 1, 2026.
188.120	SB 952	1	Amend	Changes process to fill a vacancy in the office of United States Senator. The Governor is required to fill the vacancy by appointment not later than 30 days after the vacancy occurs. The appointee will serve in the office until the end of the term or until a successor is elected and qualified. When a vacancy occurs, the Governor is also required to call a special election. The special election must occur between the 80th day and the 150th day after the vacancy occurs. Effective January 1, 2026.
203.720, 221.210	HB 3687	1-2	Amend	Prohibits a supermajority vote requirement for any amendment of a county or city charter. Allows counties and cities to amend their charters to allow supermajority, double majority, or other heightened vote requirements for revenue-generating measures or measures imposing or increasing fees, taxes, assessments, fines, penalties or charges. Effective September 26, 2025.

Related To Election Administration

Bill No.	Synopsis
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HB 3474	Requires Secretary of State to conduct a study of changes to the USPS, including an analysis of how any changes will impact vote-by-mail.
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	Effective January 1, 2026.
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