



Oregon
Secretary of State
Dennis Richardson

Stop Election Manipulation

Oregon Secretary of State Dennis Richardson sent this bulletin at 06/29/2017 02:19 PM PDT



Secretary of State
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The State of Oregon

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Secretary of State
Dennis Richardson Opposes
Election Manipulation

I need your help. The Oregon House Rules Committee will soon vote on an amendment to institute a special election next January. This special election will waste millions of your tax dollars, will suppress voter turnout, and will keep voters in the dark.

As Oregon's chief elections officer, I take seriously my responsibility to ensure a fair election process and encourage maximum citizen participation in our democracy. I strongly believe that the A7 amendment to Senate Bill 229 should be rejected because it manipulates the election process and keeps voters in the dark. These political shenanigans are unacceptable.

The Oregon Constitution gives you the right to overrule the legislature through the referendum process. This protection ensures accountability and safeguards fundamental rights. This amendment does just the opposite. It is a political ploy to undermine accountability by increasing power for politicians at the expense of the people.

The key problems with this amendment include:

Suppresses Voter Turnout: A special election in January is expected to suppress voter turnout by approximately 14%, thereby excluding over 270,000 Oregonians from the political process.

Wastes Taxpayer Money: A special election in January will waste millions in taxpayer dollars that could have paid for more teachers or expanded voter access.

Disrupts the Holiday Season: A special election in January means that the holidays will be disrupted with robocalls, political telemarketers, nasty TV ads, and campaign junk mail. This will prevent you from enjoying the holidays in peace with friends and family.

Deceives the Voters: This amendment subverts the nonpartisan process for drafting a ballot title by injecting partisan politics and political bias into the process.

Please call House Speaker Tina Kotek at 503-986-1200 and Governor Kate Brown at 503-378-4582 to ask them to join me in opposing the manipulation of your and your fellow Oregonians' vote.

View my video statement here: <https://youtu.be/6Uj-dRacwnw>

Thank you.

Dennis Richardson

PS You can also email the members of the House Rules Committee to make

your voice heard:

Rep.JenniferWilliamson@oregonlegislature.gov

Rep.MikeMcLane@oregonlegislature.gov

Rep.DanRayfield@oregonlegislature.gov

Rep.GregBarreto@oregonlegislature.gov

Rep.JodiHack@oregonlegislature.gov

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