

Article II, section 1 of the Oregon Constitution is amended to read:

Section 1. Elections free. (1) ~~All elections shall be free and equal.~~ At each stage of the election process for every office, a good faith effort shall be made to ensure the process is;

(a) free and equal. All eligible voters and candidates shall participate on an equal basis, and there shall be no artificial barriers erected to prevent;

(A) any eligible voter from participating;

(B) any eligible candidate not eliminated in a previous stage from participating;

(C) any eligible voter from supporting any eligible candidate(s) not eliminated in a previous stage.

(b) fair. The candidate(s) with the greatest voter support shall be advanced or selected. Political parties may be officially recognized, and party affiliation data may be collected/disseminated for the sole purpose of avoiding "vote splitting" by affiliated candidates.

(c) public. With the exception of collecting/disseminating data as described in (b), the state nor any jurisdiction within the state shall not;

(A) conduct or regulate political party procedures and functions;

(B) enforce political party rules;

(C) provide services or support to political parties and their affiliated candidates that cannot be provided to unaffiliated candidates.

(D) qualify or advance any candidate to any election stage based on political party affiliation or nomination.

(2) Presidential Electors. Pursuant to Article II, section 1 of the U.S. Constitution, in a year when a President and Vice President of the United States are to be elected, a statewide popular election process shall be conducted and presidential electors appointed as set forth in this subsection. In any legal action challenging compliance with subsection (1) above, "a good faith effort" shall be treated as an issue of fact, and this subsection is admissible as evidence of a compliant process.

(a) The statewide popular election process for U.S. President and Vice President shall consist of 3 stages:

(A) A nonbinding Virtual Caucus Poll - conducted from January 1st thru June 30th. The purpose of this Caucus is to collect information about the relative voter support among candidates competing for the same office and to eliminate ineligible or frivolous candidates.

(B) A Qualifying Primary Poll - concluded on September 15th. The purpose of this election is to reduce the number of candidates per office to four or fewer.

(C) A General Election - concluded on the date stipulated by federal law. The purpose of this election is to select a single candidate for each office with the greatest voter support.

(b) The Virtual Caucus shall be implemented using a secure online database where;

(A) voters may register to vote and amend their registration online. Contact information may be required to register. Information needed to confirm the eligibility to vote may be required to register. Optionally, a voter may make a declaration of party affiliation. There shall be no fee accessed for registration.

(B) candidates may file for office, withdraw and amend their filing information online. Contact information may be required for filing. Information needed to confirm the eligibility of the candidate for the office may be required for filing. Optionally, a candidate may make a declaration of party affiliation. There shall be no fee accessed for filing, and no candidate shall be required to make a showing of

support to file.

(C) voters may endorse a single candidate for each office and amend their endorsements repeatedly online.

(D) the state's chief election officer shall publish an endorsement report on the 1st of each month, from February thru July, which shows the total number of voter endorsements accumulated for each office. Additionally, the report shall include the total number of affiliated endorsements and unaffiliated endorsements accumulated for each candidate.

(E) elections officers shall check each candidate's eligibility, and if a candidate is ineligible for an office, that candidate is eliminated and may not advance to the Qualifying Primary Poll.

(F) candidates accumulating less than 1% of the total voter endorsements per office by June 30th are eliminated and may not advance to the Qualifying Primary Poll.

(c) In the Qualifying Primary Poll, for each office;

(A) the names of all candidates advanced from the Virtual Caucus Poll shall be printed on the ballot.

(B) the ballot shall provide each voter with the opportunity to choose four candidates ranked 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.

(C) after voting is concluded, the candidates shall be ranked according to the total number of 1st place votes they received - with the candidate receiving the fewest votes ranked last.

(D) the last place candidate shall then be eliminated, and that candidate's votes redistributed to other candidates who have not been eliminated. The redistribution shall be based on each voter's 2nd, 3rd, or 4th place votes - whichever is ranked highest. The candidates shall again be ranked according to the total number of votes they received - with the candidate receiving the fewest votes ranked second to last.

(E) the process described in (D) shall be repeated until all candidates are ranked from last to first.

(F) only the candidates ranked first, second, third, or fourth advance to the General Election.

(G) if a vacancy occurs due to the death or withdrawal of a candidate prior to the Qualifying Primary Poll's conclusion, the vacancy shall be filled by the candidate next lower in the ranking. Vacancies occurring after the Qualifying Primary Poll concludes shall not alter candidates' names printed on the General Election ballot.

(d) In the General Election, for each office;

(A) the names of the four candidates advanced from the Qualifying Primary Poll shall be printed on the ballot.

(B) the ballot shall provide each voter with the opportunity to rank the candidates 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.

(C) after voting is concluded, the candidates shall be ranked according to the total number of 1st place votes they received - with the candidate receiving the fewest votes ranked last.

(D) the last place candidate shall then be eliminated, and that candidate's votes redistributed to other candidates who have not been eliminated. The redistribution shall be based on each voter's 2nd, 3rd, or 4th place votes - whichever is ranked highest. The candidates shall again be ranked according to the total number of votes they received - with the candidate receiving the fewest votes ranked second to last.

(E) the process described in (D) shall be repeated until all candidates are ranked from last to first.

(e) Following the certification of the General Election results, the chief elections officer of the state shall

convene a convention of county elections officers. At the convention, each county shall be represented by a single elections officer. Each officer shall be allowed to make a pledge stating that;

(A) Elections in Oregon belong to the voters, not the legislature, candidates, congress, or political parties.

(B) If chosen as a presidential elector, the officer will honor the will of the voters and vote for the candidates that placed first in the statewide popular election process for President and Vice President.

The county elections officers shall choose from among their ranks a number of delegates equal to the total number of Senators and Representatives the state is entitled to in congress - along with two alternate delegates. These delegates shall represent and vote in the U.S. electoral college on behalf of Oregon voters. In no case shall a county elections officer be chosen as a delegate who has not pledged to honor the will of the voters. The convention shall adopt their own rules by majority vote, where the chief election officer of the state shall act as speaker and shall only vote to break a tie.