

Distinguished Senators,

On behalf of the Multnomah County Republican Party and its Voter Integrity team, allow me to thank you for the profound literary challenge presented by testifying on SB 1515 without using obscenity, blasphemy, or other language inappropriate for public review. When presented to the MCRP Voter Integrity team, our initial response was strongly in opposition, but upon later reflection it occurred to us all that this is very possibly one of the worst laws imaginable.

In case the Senators were unaware, a recent Oregon State government endeavor to create an internet portal has attained notoriety not only here, but around the world for the completeness of its failure. While you might not choose to believe that anything could be worse than the disaster of Cover Oregon, the Multnomah County Republican Party remains steadfast in its belief that government internet endeavors can always plumb new depths of corruption, incompetence, and betrayal of the public trust. To say that this is a bad idea at a bad time is a charming understatement, without much charm.

As a partisan political operative, I should let you continue forward with this grievous mistake in an election year. It no longer requires a conspiracy theorist to doubt the wisdom of allowing every hacker on the planet the opportunity to control Oregon elections for fun, profit, or part of some sick competition. All the folks whose information was stolen after registering for Cover Oregon or who received other people's information by random incompetence are intimately aware of the ways that this idea goes badly. Those folks, their families, and everybody who heard their stories will be happy to vote against you in the fall, and the spring for that matter, should you pass this bill. But this bill is such a bad idea that even an exploratory committee is unwise expenditure of public funds and use of government resources.

On behalf of the Multnomah County Republican Party, I urge you to stop SB 1515. The technology and the trust are not available to support internet voting as an option in the foreseeable future.

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