

May 23, 2017



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**Oregon Progressive Party
Position on Bill at 2017
Session of Oregon Legislature:**

SB 481 A: Not Support

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party does not support this bill, which purports to reform the Public Records Act but accomplishes very little of substance.

It fails to resolve the major problems with governments in Oregon responding to requests for public records. It establishes no actual deadlines for providing requested documents. Instead, it merely repeats language in existing law that prohibits "unreasonable delay." Apparently, it is reasonable for some agencies to delay for months. It then even weakens that requirement by exempting all government bodies from that requirement "if compliance would be impracticable."

SB 481 A also sets no actual limits on the fees that governments can demand before providing the documents.

SB 481 A should be amended to provide actual deadlines for production and actual limits on fees, at a minimum. We suggested that in testimony on the original bill on February 22, 2017.

Oregon Progressive Party

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