

March 30, 2015



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Oregon Progressive Party Position on Bill at 2015 Session of Oregon Legislature:

Oppose: HJR 29

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party officially opposes HJR 29, which proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution establishing Independent Redistricting Commission to adopt redistricting plans for state Senate, state House of Representatives and United States House of Representatives.

The proposed Commission would consist of 3 retired judges selected at random by the State Court Administrator, but it requires that 2 of the 3 commissioners have been members of a major party for at least 4 years. It is not like the California redistricting commission, which consists of a random selection of citizens who volunteered.

HJR 29 also mandates single-member legislative districts, which are not currently required by the Oregon Constitution. The opportunity for multi-member districts is very important to minor parties. In Vermont, for example, its multi-member legislative districts result in several minor party candidates elected to the Vermont Legislature.

Please include this statement in the legislative record for this bill.

Thank you.

