

**April 10, 2017**



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

### **SB 1009: Support**

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party (OPP) supports this bill, which:

- For counties with 35,000 or more electors, increases number of required voting booths and requires specified number of voting booth locations.
- Requires each voting booth location to permit registered elector to cast ballot, update address information on elector's voter registration file and request and receive reissued or replacement ballot.

Requires each voting booth location to be open for no less than eight hours on every weekday and four hours on every weekend day during specified period before election.

- Requires that each voting booth location be open from 8 o'clock in morning through 8 o'clock in evening on date of election.
- Permits county clerk to determine location of voting booths and lists guidelines county clerk must consider when making determination.
- Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Secretary of State for purpose of hiring individuals to assist with new requirements.

Today, voters in rural areas often do not have easy access to ballot drop sites or to the county office where election-related business can be done (changing name or address, etc.). A voter can drop off the ballot in receptacles placed by county officials, but those receptacles can be few and far between. Last year there were 6 ballot drop sites in the 10,226 square miles of Harney County, but 4 of them were in Burns and one in next door Hines. The only other one was in Crane, 26 miles from Burns--in a county that is 86 x 142 miles in size. Curry County had 3 sites, located at 25-mile intervals on the Pacific coast, and none inland. I chose these 2 counties at random.

### **Oregon Progressive Party**

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