

February 22, 2017

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

**SB 481: Oppose as Written**

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party (OPP) opposes this bill, which purports to reform Oregon's public records laws.

We would characterize SB 481 as window dressing. 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.

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

So the OPP opposes HJR 10 as written and suggests that it be amended to provide actual deadlines for production and actual limits on fees, at a minimum.

**Oregon Progressive Party**

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