



The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

March 31, 2025

To: [Senator Jama](#), Chair, and members of the [Senate Committee On Rules](#)

Re: [SB 1014](#) – allow party statements in online translated voter pamphlets – **Support with comments**

The LWVOR supports SB 1014, to allow including political party statements into **translated online** voters’ pamphlets for Oregon, and as applicable, for our counties. LWV(US) *encourages informed and active participation in government* and has protected minority language voting rights since 1974, as a basic right, in 1998 opposing “English-only” legislation that would have effectively repealed Voting Rights Act minority language provisions. Making voting materials accessible in voters’ native languages is of great value in improving government transparency and enabling voter participation. We speak from our experience with LWVOR *Voters’ Guides* translation and the the **2015 Task Force on Minority Voting Materials (Report)**.

Top 5 languages after English:

Oregon:	Marion County:
Spanish	Spanish
Vietnamese	Russian
Chinese	Marshallese
Russian	Chinese
Korean	Vietnamese

This bill’s focused changes reflect accomplishments we suggested in [testimony comments](#), [HB 3021 Enrolled](#) (2021). Language references for the top five or ten make sense, for top five languages, after English. Counties may not match the state top-five list, but be within the state top ten.

Clarification may be needed to emphasize intention. The statement source (SECTION 1, page 2, starting with line 22), clearly defines statement translation responsibility and requirements as coming from the party (ORS 251.115) and person filing the statement (ORS 251.115), consistently observing statement content requirements, unchanged between English and translated submissions. Note that the bill’s digest phrase, “must include” varies from the further description, “allow to be included”. Given the clarity in describing

Digest: The Act says that the SOS *must include translations* of party statements in voters’ booklets. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.8). Requires the Secretary of State *to allow to be included* in the translated version of each state voters’ pamphlet that is made available on the website of the secretary or of a county the translations of a party’s statement of arguments for the success of its principles and election

In closing, the spread of election misinformation is now one of the biggest threats to our democracy. Presenting directly understandable voting information to voters is a priority.

We urge your Support for SB 1014. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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