



## **Fast Facts on Measure 65**

Right now, 25% of Oregon's registered voters don't receive a ballot for party primary elections. They are disenfranchised. They don't have a voice and they don't have a vote. That's not fair.

Measure 65 changes that by treating all voters equally in every election. It also ensures everyone can always vote for the person they think is best qualified for the job, regardless of party registration.

### **How it works**

All registered voters would receive the same primary election ballot\* in May and the opportunity to vote for any candidate seeking election to state or local office, including U.S. Senate/Congress. In all such offices previously elected through partisan primaries, the top two vote-getters would advance to the general election, no matter what the party affiliation of the candidate or the voter.

\*In 2012 and beyond, registered Democrats and Republicans would receive an additional ballot listing their party's presidential hopefuls and contested precinct committee positions (if any). Measure 65 would lack legal authority over these positions, since they are not "state offices."

- More than 480,000 registered voters in Oregon – Independents and minor party members -- are not allowed to participate in a party primary election. That is a quarter of the electorate.
- More than 100,000 Oregonians helped put Measure 65 on the ballot. It is the only measure that was put on the ballot by citizens, rather than by the legislature or professional initiative mills.
- 74% of Oregonians say they want an Open Primary system.
- More than 1000 Oregonians have contributed money to the Open Primary measure.
- In 40% of the legislative districts in Oregon, only one candidate of the major parties filed to run for the legislature. All of these districts will have uncontested elections in November.
- No one but a stated Democrat or Republican has ever been elected to statewide office.