



BC DEMS RESOLUTION 2024-01

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party of Oregon's 2023 Platform, Article 8. Protecting Democracy, Plank 10, states: "We believe voting requires an informed electorate; therefore, all contested elections, including local races, must require that the county produce a voters' pamphlet and, at minimum, provide it to the public via the county's website"; and

WHEREAS, along with vote by mail, one of the reasons that Oregon has such high voter turnout is the production and distribution of official voters' pamphlets that give voters insight into the candidates running for public office; and

WHEREAS, in local, small board races (such as school board, rural fire protection districts, and community college boards) the voters' pamphlet can be one of the only opportunities for candidates to reach local voters; and

WHEREAS, many counties, including our neighbors in Linn County, do not produce or provide voters' pamphlets for small board elections and local races; and

WHEREAS, Oregon voters often expect to receive a voters' pamphlet and can miss the opportunity to vote by waiting for a pamphlet that will never arrive, or can fall victim to misleading mailers claiming to be a voters' pamphlet.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Benton County Democratic Central Committee asks that the Oregon State Legislature enact a law requiring counties produce voters' pamphlets for all contested elections; requiring counties to post the voters' pamphlet in a prominent place on their county website and to mail one to each registered voter household; and providing permanent state funding for the production, printing, and postage for these voter's pamphlets.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY: GABE SHEPHERD (PCP, pct. 4)

APPROVED BY THE BENTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
JANUARY 18, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabe Shepherd", is written over a horizontal line.

Chair Gabe Shepherd

January 18, 2024

Date