

House Bill 2895

Citizens' Initiative Review Pilot Legislation Overview

- **The 2010 Citizens' Initiative Review pilot project will be privately funded.** All costs associated with this legislation (the Review(s), printing a new page in the voters pamphlet, and the evaluation) are to be covered by private and foundation funding.

- **HB 2895 allows for a one-time pilot of the CIR process in order to assess the utility of the CIR as a reform to Oregon's initiative process.** This bill allows for a grant-funded pilot of a citizen-based review process to evaluate 1-3 initiated measures on the 2010 ballot. This is a one time test of the Review process, to sunset upon completion in Jan., 2011.

- **The CIR pilot project will be professionally evaluated.** HB 2895 includes the requirement for a rigorous evaluation of the Review. This evaluation will be designed by a team of public policy professors from across Oregon, to assess impact on the vote, and utility of the Review to voters.

- **For each CIR conducted in 2010, the resulting Citizens' Statement will be prominently displayed as a new page in the Voter's Pamphlet.** HB 2895 gives Secretary of State the power to authorize a public-private entity that meets strict criteria to conduct review(s) & publish results in a new place in voter's pamphlet.

- **The CIR pilot project will meet the established criteria for the Citizens' Initiative Review process.** HB 2895 calls for the results of a proven, high-quality model of citizen deliberation, as tested during 2008 election, to be placed in the voters' pamphlet and evaluated in 2010. The CIR pilot project will meet the established criteria as outlined below.

Citizens' Initiative Review Process Criteria

Review Panels consist of 18 -24 randomly selected registered voters that are demographically balanced to reflect the state's electorate. Demographics must at a minimum include: A) the location of the elector's residence, (B) the elector's party affiliation, if any, (C) the elector's voting history, and (D) the elector's age. In addition, demographic variables including, gender, ethnicity, educational attainment, and income will be incorporated to the extent practicable and legally permissible.

Panelists are given a per diem of \$150 a day and travel, lodging, and meal expenses are covered by the convening organization to ensure widespread participation.

For each ballot measure evaluated, a separate panel will be convened.

The Review process is five consecutive days in length and is moderated by two highly trained professionals.

The resulting "Citizens Statement" may include a pro, con, undecided and a potential $\frac{3}{4}$ majority statement- all at 150 words each.