



### **Notice of Receipt of Ballot Title and One Subject Determination**

**Notice is hereby given that the following Ballot Title for a proposed initiative petition has been filed with the Deschutes County Clerk on May 7, 2026. The County Clerk has determined that the proposed initiative meets requirements of Oregon Constitution, Article IV, Section 1, requiring that a measure shall embrace one subject only and the proposed text is legislative in nature.**

#### **CAPTION**

Amend County Code to Elect County Commissioners Using Ranked-Choice Voting

#### **QUESTION**

Shall Deschutes County Code be amended to elect commissioners at-large by ranked-choice voting, with related term changes and voter education?

#### **SUMMARY**

This ballot measure, if approved by voters, would amend the county code to establish elections of the Board of Commissioners by ranked-choice voting in which voters would be able to rank candidates in order of preference. All candidates seeking that office would compete against every other Commission candidate, with each seat on the Commission being filled according to voter preference.

This measure would set a schedule for the election of all Commissioners to be held in each Presidential general election year.

If the first general election following adoption of this ordinance is a non-Presidential year election, Commissioners will be elected for an initial term of two years at that election, and for four-year terms if elected during subsequent Presidential year general elections.

If this measure is approved by voters, the County will be required to conduct a voter education campaign to familiarize voters with the ranked-choice voting methods described in the ordinance prior to the first election using that voting method and will be required to continue to do so periodically, thereafter.

**Per ORS 250.195 any elector dissatisfied with this ballot title, may file a petition for review of this ballot title in the Deschutes County Circuit Court no later than 5:00 p.m., May 18, 2026 (the seventh business day after the title was filed). The petitioner shall also notify the Deschutes County Clerk in writing no later than 5 pm on the next business day following the day the petition is filed.**

**Steve Dennison  
Deschutes County Clerk**