Report from David Delk - June 26, 2021 Election reforms at 2021 legislative session

This has been a disappointing legislative session regarding reforms to election process in Oregon. In most cases, the legislature failed to act

The Legislature has failed to act on:

- limits on campaign finance contributions (<u>HB3343</u>, <u>SB336</u>)
- system of public funding of candidates for state offices (<u>HB2680A</u>)
- use of Ranking Choice Voting (or STAR Voting) (<u>HB2678</u>, <u>HB2685</u>, <u>HB2686</u>)
- allowing same day voter registration (<u>HJR11</u>)
- allowing felons to vote while still in jail/prison (<u>SB571-3</u>)
- allowing 17 year-old to vote (<u>HB2689</u>)
- creation of independent redistricting committee (HJR7)

What the legislature has enacted:

- requirement that voters cannot be moved to inactive status due to voter not voting or updating voter registration. Requires county elections official to notify voter if they have been moved to inactive status. (HB2681-A)
- Bill (<u>HB3291-2</u>) which allows ballots posted marked no later than election day to be counted if received within 7 days of the election date
- Bill (<u>HB2323</u>) which penalized false info regarding an election

Likely future action:

- Initiative campaign to enact effective limits on campaign contributions. This is being worked on by Honest Elections Oregon
- Initiative campaign to enact Ranked Choice Voting. This will be worked on by a coalition of Ranked Choice Voting advocates
- Initiative campaign for creation of independent redistricting committee. An initiative has been filed with the Oregon Secretary of State's office, ##16, People Not Politicians.

More info on initiative petitions is available on the Oregon Secretary of State's website for petitions here.