



August 30, 2016

Lane County Commission  
125 E 8th Ave  
Eugene, OR 97401

**Re: County's Handling of Proposed County Charter Amendments under ORS 203.725**

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of Oregon Farm Bureau, Oregon Cattlemen's Association, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association, Oregon Seed Council and Oregon Wheat Growers League, who collectively represent hundreds of members in Lane County, we urge you to promptly review all proposed and circulating initiative petitions for compliance with the "separate vote" requirement under ORS 203.725(2). By failing to conduct this review, the County is asking petitioners to gamble time and money circulating measures that may ultimately be barred from the ballot. This is unfair to the petitioners, and it's unfair to parties who may oppose the measures.

We agree with the analysis conducted by attorneys for Stanton Long that there are three current initiatives that do not comply with the requirements of the statute. Each contain multiple amendments to the county charter, and ORS 203.725(2) plainly provides that measures containing multiple amendments may not be submitted to the voters. It is a tremendous waste of private and county resources to allow petitioners to continue collecting signatures, and lobbying to garner support, for proposed measures that may not legally be submitted to the electors. For this reason, we urge the county to act quickly in moving forward with this statutorily-mandated review, and to publicly announce that such review is under way.

Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact any of the below signatories to the letter if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Mary Anne Nash, Oregon Farm Bureau

Jerome Rosa, Oregon Cattlemen's Association

Tami Kerr, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association

Oregon Seed Council

Blake Rowe, Oregon Wheat Growers League