IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF YAMHILL
SITTING FOR THE TRANSACTION OF COUNTY BUSINESS

In the Matter of the Authorization of a Notice of Election for March 28, 1995, for Referral of an Ordinance Authorizing the Board to Actively Support an Amendment to the Oregon Constitution Authorizing "One State Senator Per County."

BOARD ORDER 95-055
ORDINANCE 586

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF YAMHILL COUNTY, OREGON ("the Board") sat for the transaction of county business in special session on January 25, 1995, commissioners Dennis L. Goecks, Robert Johnstone and Thomas E. E. Bunn being present.

THE BOARD MAKES THE FOLLOWING FINDINGS:

A. The Oregon Constitution currently provides for 30 state senators representing senate districts according to population. The effect of the constitutional provision is that many rural counties share a common state senator while some urban counties are each represented by more than one state senator.

B. An organization called the "Sagebrush Coalition" has been formed to advocate an amendment to the Oregon Constitution to establish each of the 36 Oregon counties as individual state senate districts. The Oregon House of Representatives would retain its present composition on a population-based apportionment system. As of November, 1994, voters in 11 counties have approved ballot measures advocating such a constitutional amendment. While a similar state constitutional provision in Alabama was invalidated in a United States Supreme Court case called Reynolds v. Sims, legal advisors to the "Sagebrush Coalition" maintain that such an amendment to the Oregon Constitution would be permissible under the United States Constitution because of the unique nature of the county government system in Oregon.

C. The Board finds that the citizens of Yamhill County should be allowed to vote on the question of whether the Board should actively support a constitutional amendment to establish each of the 36 Oregon counties as individual state senate districts.

D. Because a county-wide election has already been set for the election of March 28, 1995, the Board finds that a proposed county ordinance should be referred to the voters at the election. The
first reading of Ordinance 586 (attached as Exhibit "A") took place January 11, 1995 and the second reading took place January 25, 1995. NOW, THEREFORE,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Notice of Election and Ballot Title attached as Exhibit "B" are approved by the Board to be submitted to the voters in the election of March 28, 1995.

2. The county clerk is directed to take all necessary steps to place the proposed measure before the voters in the election of March 28, 1995.

DONE at McMinnville, Oregon this 25th day of January, 1995.

ATTEST:

CHARLES STERN
County Clerk

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Dennis Goecks
Chairman

Robert Johnstone
Commissioner

FORM APPROVED BY:

JOHN M. GRAY, JR.
Yamhill County Counsel
IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF YAMHILL
SITTING FOR THE TRANSACTION OF COUNTY BUSINESS

In the Matter of an Ordinance )
Directing the Board to Actively )
Seek an Amendment to the )
Oregon Constitution Establishing ) ORDINANCE 586
One State Senator per County; )
the Ordinance to be Referred to )
the Voters of Yamhill County at )
the Election of March 28, 1995. )

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF YAMHILL COUNTY, OREGON ("the Board") sat for the transaction of county business in special session on January 25, 1995, commissioners Dennis L. Goecks, Robert Johnstone and Thomas E. E. Bunn being present.

THE BOARD MAKES THE FOLLOWING FINDINGS:

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C. The Board finds that the citizens of Yamhill County should be allowed to vote on the question of whether the Board should actively support a constitutional amendment to establish each of the 36 Oregon counties as individual state senate districts.

D. Because a county-wide election has already been set for the election of March 28, 1995, the Board finds that this ordinance should be referred to the voters at that election. The first
reading of this ordinance took place January 11, 1995 and the second reading took place January 25, 1995. NOW, THEREFORE,

THE YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. County support of "One Senator per County" amendment.

The Board of Commissioners is hereby directed to actively support an amendment to the Oregon Constitution to establish each of the 36 Oregon counties as individual state senate districts with the effect that the Oregon state senate shall be comprised of one state senator per county.

Section 2. Referral of ordinance to voters.

This ordinance shall be referred to the voters of Yamhill County at the election to be held March 28, 1995.

Section 3. Effective date if voters approve ordinance.

If this ordinance is approved by the voters in the election of March 28, 1995, it shall become effective immediately.

Section 4. Effect if not approved.

If this ordinance is not approved by the voters in the election of March 28, 1995, this ordinance shall be null and void and shall have no further force or effect.

DONE at McMinnville, Oregon this 25th day of January, 1995.

ATTEST

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CHARLES E. STERN
County Clerk

BY: JAYNIE MITCHELL
Deputy JAYNIE MITCHELL

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DENNIS L. GOECKS
Chairman

ROBERT JOHNSTONE
Commissioner

THOMAS E. E. BUNN
Commissioner

ORDINANCE 586
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Exhibit "A"
Board Order 95-055
NOTICE OF COUNTY MEASURE ELECTION

YAMHILL COUNTY

(Name of county)

Notice is hereby given that on **Tuesday**, March 28, 1995

(Day of week) (Date of election)

a measure election will be held in _________ County, Oregon.

(Name of county)

The county clerk has advised us (SELECT ONE):

☐ The election will be conducted at the polls. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

☒ The election will be conducted by mail.

The following shall be the ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the county's voters on this date:

**CAPTION (10 Words)**

DIRECTS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO SUPPORT "ONE SENATOR PER COUNTY" AMENDMENT

**QUESTION (20 Words)**

**SUMMARY**

(Remainder of Ballot Title attached to this Notice of County Measure Election.)

The following authorized county official hereby certifies the above ballot title is true and complete.

**Signature of authorized county official (not required to be notarized)**

John M. Gray, Jr.

**Printed name of authorized county official**

**January 25, 1995**

Date signed

Yamhill County Legal Counsel

Title

*1. For measure authorizing tax levy or establishing new tax base: Concise and impartial statement of not more than 175 words, explaining chief purpose of the measure and giving reasons for the measure. ORS 310.390. Additional statement required by ORS 310.395 shall not be included in word count.

*2. For any other measure: Concise and impartial statement of not more than 85 words, summarizing the measure and its major effect. Content meets requirements of ORS 250.035, 250.039 and 250.041.
BALLOT TITLE
For March 28, 1995 Primary Election

CAPTION: DIRECTS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO SUPPORT "ONE SENATOR PER COUNTY" AMENDMENT

QUESTION: Shall Yamhill County adopt an ordinance directing the Board of Commissioners to support constitutional amendment providing one senator per county?

EXPLANATION: The Oregon constitution currently provides for 30 state senators. Senate districts are based on population. For example, 18 counties east of the Cascade Mountains share 4 state senators while the Portland metropolitan area is represented by 11 state senators.

If this measure passes, Ordinance 586 will be enacted. The ordinance directs the Board of Commissioners to actively support an amendment to the Oregon Constitution. The amendment would establish each of the 36 Oregon counties as separate state senate districts represented by a state senator.

Attachment to Exh. "B"
Board Order 95-055