

A RESOLUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

WashCoDems 2016-024

A Resolution Relating to Electronic Signatures on Initiatives (The Grassroots Petitioning Initiative)

Whereas allowing the People of Oregon to sign petitions online will increase access to the initiative process for the nearly 90% of Oregonians who currently use the internet, many of whom will otherwise never have the chance to sign an official petition and help advance a citizens' initiative to the ballot; and

Whereas many Oregonians already sign diverse types of petitions online, and being able to sign petitions from home will allow many people from rural areas as well as people with disabilities, illness, and injuries to participate in the initiative process, whom otherwise wouldn't; and

Whereas allowing petition signatures to be gathered online will lower the cost of collecting signatures for the people of Oregon, will lower the cost of verifying signatures for the Secretary of State, and will create more convenience for Oregonians who are already civically engaged; and

Whereas increasing access to the ballot will improve and strengthen our democracy and will help to inspire more Oregonians to become civically engaged; and

Whereas the current Grassroots Petition Initiative is asking Oregon voters if they would like to allow official petitions for initiatives, referendums, and constitutional amendments to be signed digitally, using computers and the internet, as long as security can be guaranteed; and

Whereas the Grassroots Petitioning Initiative is currently being circulated within the State of Oregon and has been registered with the Oregon Secretary of State (<http://oregonvotes.org/irr/2018/002text.pdf>):

NOW THEREFORE be it Resolved by the Democratic Party of Washington County, Oregon (DPWC):

1. The DPWC supports the creation of State polices which will allow Oregon voters to securely sign initiative and referendum petitions online.
2. The DPWC endorses the Grassroots Petitioning Initiative, also currently known as Initiative Petition 2.
3. Notification of this endorsement will be furnished to the Washington County legislative delegation and to the Oregon Secretary of State office.

Draft submitted: David Carlson, Keith Haxton – 8/2/16; revised - 11/1/16; Passed by P&RC – 12/6/2016.

Draft Submitted: August 2016, Platform & Resolutions Chair; Approved by P&RC for 1st Reading, 2 August 2016; amended on line, 15 August, 2016. Approved by CC - Sept 28, 2016

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