



**EN ESPAÑOL**

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**ELECTION ACTION IN 2018:**

# Liberty and Justice for All!

WELCOME TO A VOTER GUIDE by small town Oregonians for small town Oregonians. This is a real people's guide to real issues and important decisions that you face this year.

Every election cycle we are faced with critical decisions that impact our communities. The coming election illuminates challenges on many fronts. A humanitarian crisis at the border, a broken immigration system, increasing economic hardship, and a continuing loss of public resources (like healthcare and 911 services) for rural families add urgency to the many issues up for a vote in November.

We will be voting for all of our State and U.S. Representatives, our Governor, and many of our State Senators. Just as important, our ballots will include candidates for local offices such as Town or City Councilor, Mayor, County Sheriff and Commissioner, and Circuit Court Judge. These are the people who will make decisions ranging from curriculum in our schools to which social services get funded and which get cut.

We will also vote on five ballot measures, most of which represent narrow special interests while fueling discrimination and hate.

*A humanitarian crisis at the border, a broken immigration system, increasing economic hardship, and a continuing loss of public resources for rural families add urgency to the many issues up for a vote in November.*

We face challenging dilemmas and politicians have opened up a vacuum in which "us vs them" seems to define our options. But candidates focused on reactionary 'solutions' don't understand that rural Oregonians are much stronger, braver, and more unified than they think. We are at home in rough terrain — be

it rain-soaked forests, mountains, deserts, or rocky seashores — and do the necessary work to live here, even when it is physically, economically, and socially difficult.

As tough as we are, we are also full of generosity when it comes to our neighbors. When a crisis strikes we respond just as we always have, in spite of the political rhetoric that tries to polarize us and create division. In that spirit of mutual support, let's breathe in, reach out, and come together to fight for what really matters. At the end of the day, it's about what we share, the values that ground our commitment to living here: dignity, democratic participation in community building, and respect for any and all people who may wish to make rural Oregon their home. Such values are the steady, steady core of who we are.

We hope this guide will be a useful tool as you fill out your ballot and have conversations with your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers this election cycle.



**NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE YET?**

Not sure if you are registered? Have you moved since the last election? **You have until October 16th to register or update your registration to get a ballot at your new address!**

You can register online at [www.oregonvotes.org](http://www.oregonvotes.org) or find paper forms at the county election office, the post office, the DMV, or public buildings like the library.

You may register to vote in Oregon if:

- You are a resident of Oregon.
- You are a United States citizen.
- You will be 18 years old by Election Day, Nov. 6th, 2018.

If you have a felony conviction, you can vote in Oregon as soon as you are released from prison, even if you are still on parole or probation.

**Want to do more than vote?**

Connect with others in your area. Contact ROP at [office@rop.org](mailto:office@rop.org).

## BALLOT BASICS *Who represents you?*

In the **US CONGRESS**  
in Washington D.C.

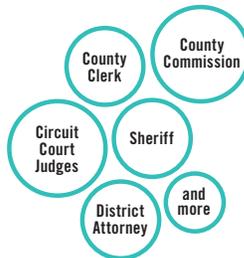


**5** Oregon is divided into 5 districts, and elects 5 US Representatives in all

In the **STATE LEGISLATURE**  
in Salem



In your **COUNTY**



In your **CITY OR TOWN**



**The Power of Local Office**

Town or City Councils and County Commissions decide how your money is spent and are responsible for water quality, the police department, roads, hospitals, parks, libraries and more.

District Attorneys, Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace and other locally elected Judges oversee the courts, jails and their personnel. They also decide whether or not to hold contracts with Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other federal agencies.

School boards make decisions regarding curriculum and facilities. Schools are also the community centers we rely on when natural disasters strike.

In your **PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



# Vote Pro-Democracy November 6th

*We have a lot at stake.*



MAIL YOUR BALLOT  
by THURSDAY, NOV 1

## OREGON BALLOT MEASURES

*Do these measures advance democracy?*



Ballot Measure	ROP Recommendation	Advances democracy? Promotes a sanctuary for us all?
106	NO	Measure 106 would amend the constitution to prohibit the allocation of public funds for abortion and related reproductive services. It would prevent public employees and working class people, including those on Oregon Health Plan, from accessing such services. With national talk of repealing Roe vs Wade, Oregonians have a chance to say No to limiting reproductive rights. This is a direct attack on healthcare options for low-wage workers and public employees.
105	NO	Measure 105 is an attempt to repeal Oregon's state sanctuary law, which prevents local law enforcement and other state agencies from using public resources to aid federal immigration enforcement. For 30 years, this law has effectively limited racial profiling of our immigrant community members. When police collaborate with ICE, immigrants are too afraid to access police protection against assault, domestic violence, robbery, and other protections everyone else enjoys. Beyond reducing public safety, 105 would also divert already stretched funds from our local agencies to enforce federal policy. Both socially and economically, the costs are more than Oregon can afford.
104	NO	Measure 104 would amend the constitution to require a 3/5ths supermajority vote in the State Legislature to eliminate tax breaks for special interests, or raise fees. 104 uses the Oregon Constitution to shield the biggest corporations in the State from any increased fees to pay for the rising costs of their use of public resources, or to clean up the pollution they might cause. This would make it even harder to fund our roads, schools, libraries, and public health care. In fact, passing Measure 104 would immediately cause cuts to the Oregon Health Plan, something voters just agreed to fund in January.
103	NO	Measure 103 would amend the constitution to permanently block taxation on groceries and to freeze the state corporate minimum tax for any business related to the food industry. But don't be fooled--103 isn't about protecting consumers! Kroger, Costco, and Albertsons Safeway have donated a combined \$1.96 million (99% of the campaigns contributions) in an effort to protect big food corporations from paying their fair share of corporate taxes, while these same corporations benefit from use of roads, water, sewage, and other public services. Like Measure 104, 103 would immediately overturn the fees passed on hospitals (since they serve food) approved by voters in January to fund the Oregon Health Plan, putting the health care of hundreds of thousands of Oregonians at risk.
102	YOU DECIDE	Measure 102 would amend the constitution, allowing public funding to be mixed with private dollars to build privately-owned affordable housing. Oregon currently has a need for over 120,000 affordable housing units, just to stay even with the demand for housing that working people can afford. By allowing private funders to participate in public bond-funded affordable housing projects, we will increase the amount of affordable housing units that can be built. We ultimately need less privatization of our public resources, not more, including publicly-owned affordable housing. Measure 102 presents a less desirable, but quicker method to build affordable housing units. There also remains a need for renters' protections, and the ability of communities to enact rent control measures. Measure 102 addresses the housing crisis from one angle but does not solve it.

### DE•MOC•RA•CY (noun)

If democracy is to work, it must uphold some basic principles. Here are four principles of democracy according to the World Book Encyclopedia:

#### 1 Inclusion of all; equality for all

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all [people] are created equal, and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, among which are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness."

- US DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

#### 2 Majority rule and minority rights

"No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

- 14TH AMENDMENT, US CONSTITUTION

#### 3 Democracy requires well-educated and well-informed people who participate in the democratic process

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

- 1ST AMENDMENT, US CONSTITUTION

#### 4 A reasonable standard of living – economic justice

"Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age and other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control."

- ARTICLE 25, UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, ADOPTED BY UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY (US INCLUDED) 1948

# A Sanctuary for Us All

*We are hearing a lot about Sanctuary this election season.*

HERE IN OREGON, Ballot Measure 105 proposes to abolish Oregon's 30-year-old Sanctuary Law. The Sanctuary law says that Oregon police and other state agencies cannot be used to enforce Federal Immigration laws. This law was put into place to ensure that our state and local resources were being used to address community needs and not to target certain individuals.

We think Measure 105 is a bad idea and that people should vote NO. Actually, instead of taking protections away from some people, **we think Oregon should be a Sanctuary for All!**

## A SANCTUARY FOR US ALL?

What would this mean?

Oregonians passed the sanctuary law 30 years ago for a reason - we value security and equality for our people. We must work to strengthen these values for all our people. Sanctuary means:

**Everyone should be able to live in the place they call home** without fear of being taken away from their families, their livelihoods, and their communities.

**Everyone should have the right to a safe affordable place to live**, without fear that rising rents and mortgages will put them out in the street.

**Everyone should have affordable, comprehensive health care**, because no one should face the choice between bankruptcy and medical care. All people should have safe, affordable reproductive health care, and the right to access abortion services if needed.

**Every community should have adequate emergency response**, public safety, excellent public schools and public libraries.

*"Before Oregon had this immigration law, I saw immigration agents, aided by local police, busting down doors and grabbing people off the street, with no way of knowing their immigration status. My friends and neighbors, including US citizens, were being harassed by local police demanding to see their papers."*

RAMON RAMIREZ - PRESIDENT OF PCUN, OREGON'S FARMWORKERS UNION

## WE CAN DO THIS!

This election, we can choose to make Oregon a thriving Sanctuary for all its people. None of the items we just listed are pipe dreams. There are efforts in the State Legislature to achieve all these goals, they just need a bit more political support. And that is where we voters come in. We can use our vote this year to reject measures that take us further from sanctuary for all and vote for the candidates who will support truly inclusive policies.

## LET'S BUILD A SANCTUARY FOR ALL IN OREGON!

To get involved with groups in your community working towards this vision contact Rural Organizing Project at 503-543-8417 or [office@rop.org](mailto:office@rop.org)

## OUR VOTES, OUR VALUES

### QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS - from city councilors to Members of Congress - make decisions that affect our everyday lives and the well-being of our communities. Let's use the election season to make sure candidates reflect our values and our priorities. Call up campaign offices and ask for a candidate's position on the issues you care about. Attend a candidate forum with your friends and ask them directly. Post these questions on social media and encourage your friends to ask these same questions and then share the responses. We choose candidates to represent us - let's make sure they really will advance a vision of sanctuary for all.

1

**How will you use your position in elected office to ensure no Oregonian has to fear losing their home because of rising rent and mortgages?** Ask your candidates for State Representative or State Senator if they will fight to lift the Ban on Pre-emption - a law that forbids local communities from taking individual actions to control skyrocketing rent. Ask your county and city candidates if they will lobby to lift this ban.

2

**What will you do to make sure all people living in Oregon have access to universal healthcare? Do your candidates support expanding Medicaid to cover everyone, and to move towards a Universal Healthcare system?** Ask them if they will speak out against Measure 106, which would leave tens of thousands of Oregonians without important reproductive healthcare options

3

**What will you do to make sure schools, libraries and other important public services can thrive?** Many communities are losing important public services like libraries and 24-hour 911. Ask your candidates if they will speak out against Measure 103 and 104, which will make it nearly impossible to raise new tax revenue to fund the basic public services that rural communities require.

4

**What will you do to ensure the rights of immigrants?** We believe in democracy: the majority rules, but minority rights are protected. In these uncertain times, some politicians play on people's fears of economic insecurity by scapegoating minorities. The separation of immigrant families when a parent is deported, zero tolerance at the border, and ever-stricter legal immigration requirements are being debated nationally and in every community. Ask your candidates if they will speak out against Measure 105, which eliminates basic legal protections from immigrants and makes racial profiling the law of the land.



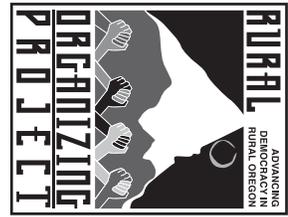
**RURAL ORGANIZING PROJECT**  
ADVANCING DEMOCRACY IN RURAL OREGON

Learn more about ROP at [www.rop.org](http://www.rop.org).

The Rural Organizing Project is a non-profit non-partisan organization that works to advance democracy and human dignity in all of Oregon's 36 counties. We prepare this Voter Guide to encourage rural Oregonians to participate in the election process in pursuit of democracy and justice — regardless of your party affiliation. With this in mind, we advocate for ballot measures that will strengthen our communities, but not for or against any candidates.

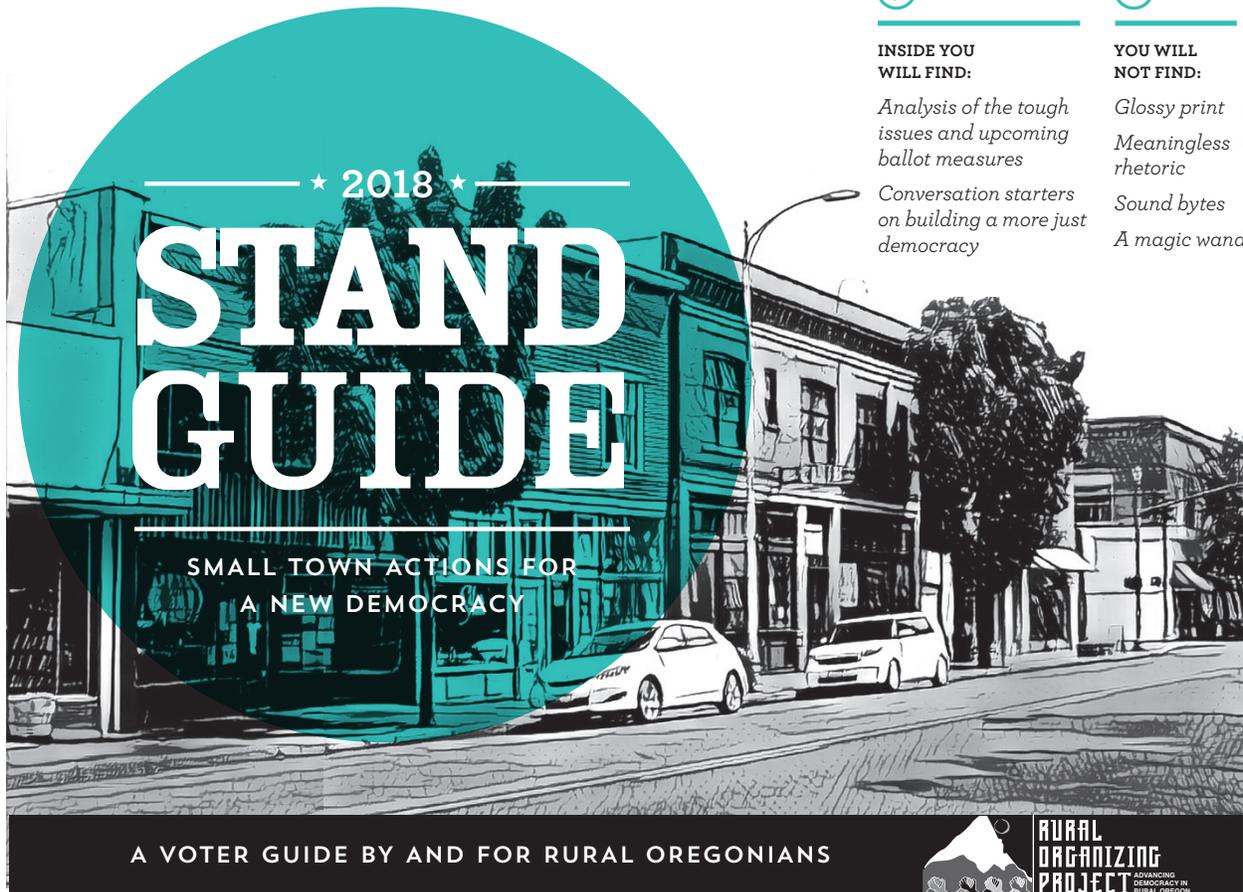
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★ 2018 ★

# STAND GUIDE

SMALL TOWN ACTIONS FOR  
A NEW DEMOCRACY

A VOTER GUIDE BY AND FOR RURAL OREGONIANS



**INSIDE YOU  
WILL FIND:**

*Analysis of the tough  
issues and upcoming  
ballot measures*

*Conversation starters  
on building a more just  
democracy*



**YOU WILL  
NOT FIND:**

*Glossy print*

*Meaningless  
rhetoric*

*Sound bytes*

*A magic wand*

