

Policy and Regulatory Update Call Invite

OPCA's Policy Team is inviting you to join them as they kick off OPCA's Policy and Advocacy Update Call where they will provide monthly updates on important policy and regulatory issues that matter to health centers.

Attendees will have direct access to federal and state-level policy and regulatory updates from OPCA staff and national experts.

When: Every second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

[Register in advance for this meeting.](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email (check spam/junk) containing information about adding the calendar invite and joining the meeting

Oregon election results so far

While it's still early, ballots are being counted and in a few races, an initial call has been made. We're starting to see how this 2024 election will shape Oregon's political landscape for the next couple of years.

We give the "it's still early" caveat mostly because the vote differential in some districts are too wide for any races to be called. Each county has their own process for reporting to the Secretary of State. Some may not send an update again until tomorrow evening.

Check out the results so far below (as of 10pm tonight), and we will send another update tomorrow with more context and results.

Voter turnout

Early numbers depicted a slower ballot return rate this year than in previous presidential elections. In 2020, roughly 73% of ballots were received before election day, and the final turnout was around 80%. Today, the Secretary of State reported 61% of ballots were returned as of about 3pm.

This is also the first presidential election since we started allowing all ballots to be counted as long as they are postmarked on or before election day, which could mean

these lagging numbers could indicate a change in voter behavior and not a lower turnout. Time will tell.

Federal & Statewide Offices

In Oregon, our congressional races haven't previously received national attention like they did this year in the CD 5 race between incumbent U.S. Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R) and challenger Janelle Bynum (D), a current state representative for House District 39. In the final weeks of the election, both candidates benefited from millions of dollars from their respective national parties, as well as out-of-state volunteers who were bussed in to knock on doors.

Officially called

Federal

1st Congressional District | Suzanne Bonamici* (D)

2nd Congressional District | Cliff Bentz* (R)

3rd Congressional District | Maxine Dexter (D)

4th Congressional District | Val Hoyle* (D)

6th Congressional District | Andrea Salinas* (D)

Statewide

Secretary of State | Tobias Read (D)

Attorney General | Dan Rayfield (D)

Treasurer | Elizabeth Steiner (D)

Too close to call

Federal

Oregon's 5th Congressional District | Janelle Bynum (D) / Lori Chavez-DeRemer* (R)

State Senate

Current makeup: 17 Democrats, 13 Republicans

On the ballot: 6 Democrats, 9 Republicans

New makeup: 18 Democrats, 11 Republicans (1 not called)

Since state senators have 4-year terms, half of the 30 seats are up this time around. Due to the lengthy walkout in 2023, the turnover in the Republican caucus is lengthy. However, many of these districts are solidly Republican seats, except for one Democrats have targeted as a potential flip since the redistricting process, Senate District 27. Former Senate Republican Leader Tim Knopp currently represents that

district but was barred from running for re-election due to his unexcused absences during the walkout.

* = Incumbent

Officially called

SD 1 David Brock Smith* (R)	SD 22 Lew Frederick* (D)
SD 2 Noah Robinson (R)	SD 23 Khanh Pham (D)
SD 9 Fred Girod* (R)	SD 25 Chris Gorsek* (D)
SD 12 Bruce Starr (R)	SD 27 Anthony Broadman (D)
SD 14 Kate Lieber* (D)	SD 28 Diane Linthicum (R)
SD 18 Wlnsvey Campos* (D)	SD 29 Todd Nash (R)
SD 21 Kathleen Taylor* (D)	SD 30 Mike McLane (R)

Too close to call

SD 5 | Dick Anderson* (R) / Jo Beaudreau (D)

State House of Representatives

Current makeup: 35 Democrats, 25 Republicans

On the ballot: 51 incumbents (30 Democrats, 21 Republicans)

New makeup: 34 Democrats, 22 Republicans (4 not called)

We are seeing a very different election this year in the Oregon House, compared with the historic high turnover in 2022. This time around, of the 60 House races, all but 9 have an incumbent in the race. Of the races that have been called, no incumbents have lost re-election.

* = Incumbent

Officially called

HD 1 Court Boice* (R)	HD 31 Darcey Edwards (R)
HD 2 Virgle Osborne* (R)	HD 33 Shannon Jones Isadore (D)
HD 3 Dwayne Yunker* (R)	HD 34 Lisa Reynolds* (D)
HD 4 Alek Skarlatos (R)	HD 35 Farrah Chaichi* (D)
HD 5 Pam Marsh* (D)	HD 36 Hai Pham* (D)
HD 6 Kim Wallan* (R)	HD 37 Jules Walters* (D)
HD 7 John Lively* (D)	HD 38 Daniel Nguyen* (D)
HD 8 Lisa Fragala (D)	HD 39 April Dobson (D)
HD 9 Boomer Wright* (R)	HD 40 Annessa Hartman* (D)
HD 10 David Gomberg* (D)	HD 41 Mark Gamba* (D)
HD 11 Jami Cate* (R)	HD 42 Rob Nosse* (D)

HD 12 Darin Harbick (R)	HD 43 Tawna Sanchez* (D)
HD 13 Nancy Nathanson* (D)	HD 46 Willy Chotzen (D)
HD 14 Julie Fahey* (D)	HD 44 Travis Nelson* (D)
HD 15 Shelley Boshart Davis* (R)	HD 45 Thuy Tran* (D)
HD 16 Sarah Finger McDonald (D)	HD 47 Andrea Valderrama* (D)
HD 17 Ed Diehl* (R)	HD 49 Zach Hudson* (D)
HD 18 Rick Lewis* (R)	HD 50 Ricki Ruiz* (D)
HD 19 Tom Andersen* (D)	HD 51 Christine Drazan (R)
HD 20 Paul Evans* (D)	HD 53 Emerson Levy* (D)
HD 21 Kevin Mannix* (R)	HD 54 Jason Kropf* (D)
HD 23 Anna Scharf* (R)	HD 55 Werner Reschke* (R)
HD 24 Lucetta Elmer* (R)	HD 56 Emily McIntire* (R)
HD 25 Ben Bowman* (D)	HD 57 Greg Smith* (R)
HD 26 Courtney Neron* (D)	HD 58 Bobby Levy* (R)
HD 27 Ken Helm* (D)	HD 59 Vikki Breese-Iverson* (R)
HD 28 Dacia Grayber* (D)	HD 60 Mark Owens (R)
HD 29 Susan McLain* (D)	
HD 30 Nathan Sosa* (D)	

Too close to call

- HD 22** | Tracy Cramer* (R) / Lesly Muñoz (D)
- HD 32** | Cyrus Javadi* (R) / Andy Davis (D)
- HD 48** | Hoa Nguyen* (D) / John Masterman (R)
- HD 52** | Jeff Helfrich* (R) / Nick Walden Poublon (D)

Ballot Measures & Other Initiatives

Statewide Ballot Measures

There are five statewide ballot measures on this year's ballot, three Legislative Referrals and two Citizen Initiatives. As of 10pm tonight, it appears two will pass with healthy margins, two will fail, and one is too close to call.

Measure 115: Impeaching statewide elected officials (Legislative Referral)

Passing

This measure would amend the Oregon constitution to allow the Oregon State Legislature to impeach statewide elected officials with a two-thirds vote in each chamber. Oregon is currently the only state that does not have a process for the state legislature to impeach a governor or other statewide electeds.

Measure 116: Establishes "Independent Public Service Compensation Commission" (Legislative Referral)

Too close to call

By creating this new commission, this measure would establish a new process for determining salaries for many public officials, including legislators, judges of the Supreme Court, the Governor, the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the Attorney General, and others. Currently, these salaries can only be changed by passing legislation.

Measure 117: Ranked-choice voting (Legislative Referral)

Failing

This measure would create a new voting system for electing certain candidates, namely for federal and statewide races (it would not impact state legislative races). Should this pass, it would go into effect for elections starting in 2028, and it would authorize local elections to use ranked-choice voting as well. There are currently two states who have a ranked-choice voting system statewide: Alaska & Maine.

Measure 118: Raises corporate taxes; distributes revenue to Oregonians (Citizen Initiative)

Failing

Should this measure pass, it would raise the minimum corporate tax rate and distribute the additional revenue equally to residents of Oregon.

Measure 119: Unionization of Cannabis Workers Initiative (Citizen Initiative)

Passing

If passed, this measure would require cannabis employers to enter into labor neutrality agreements with labor organizations. It also adds clarity about what is considered interference with that effort, and what fines or other consequences could be implemented.

Local Ballot Measures

The following are a few local measures that we found interesting, not a comprehensive list.

Greater Idaho slow-down

Over the past few years, we've seen multiple Eastern and Central Oregon counties approve ballot measures for the Greater Idaho movement, an initiative promoting shifting the borders between Idaho and Oregon so that some parts of Eastern Oregon would become Idaho. This year, however, three counties that previously passed ballot measures requiring their county commissioners to discuss state border relocation are now looking to put guardrails up. Voters in Baker County and Lake County will decide if their commissioners should have more discretion as to how often and when they discuss the issue. In Malheur County, voters will decide if they want to repeal the

requirement that their commission discuss state border relocation, citing low attendance and engagement.

Prohibition of Psilocybin-related businesses

Voters all over the state will weigh in on whether their municipality should proactively prohibit psilocybin-related businesses, including service centers. There are 17 ballot measures, which range from a two-year moratorium to a permanent ban. We have seen these since a 2020 statewide ballot measure was approved by the voters to allow the state to set up licensed facilities to administer psilocybin in a therapeutic setting.

Offshore wind

Two counties have ballot measures dealing with offshore wind projects. Both Coos and Curry Counties are holding advisory votes (essentially a vote to determine public opinion and not enact a change) as to whether their county commissioners should oppose offshore wind projects in their respective energy areas.