

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION NO. 08-074

Supporting Restoration of Simple Majority Voting Requirement

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. The 2007 Oregon Legislature passed HJR 15, which referred a proposed constitutional amendment to Oregon voters for the November 4, 2008 General Election. The proposal would remove the double-majority requirement for property tax measures and restore simple majority passage for such measures.
- b. Under the double-majority requirement, to get voter approval of a local levy or bond measure, 50 percent of all registered voters must vote, along with 50 percent plus one vote in favor, with the exception of General Elections in even-numbered years. This requirement places more election power in the hands of residents who do not vote, rather than those who have decided to exercise this right.
- c. The double-majority requirement has resulted in many jurisdictions crowding the even-numbered General Election ballots with competing taxing interests. And, the double majority requirement has resulted in the failure of several local levy and bond measures, despite the measures' receiving a majority "yes" vote.

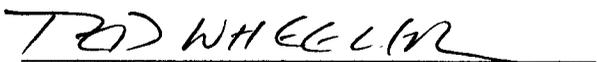
The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

1. To support the Oregon Legislature's passage of HJR 15 to restore the simple majority voting requirement to all May and November elections
2. To support the November ballot referral and encourage residents to vote yes on this ballot measure in November 2008.

ADOPTED this 29th day of May, 2008.

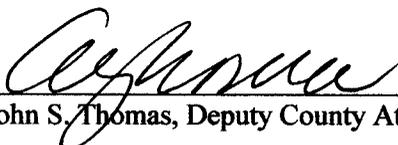


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON


Ted Wheeler, Chair

REVIEWED:

AGNES SOWLE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 
John S. Thomas, Deputy County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY:

Maria Rojo de Steffey, Commissioner District 1
Ted Wheeler, Chair