



Oregon

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Citizens' Initiative Review Commission

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CITIZENS' INITIATIVE REVIEW COMMISSION'S FIRST MEETING STARTS PROCESS OF EVALUATING 2012 BALLOT MEASURES

Charged with ensuring that citizen panels of Oregonians are convened to review ballot measure initiatives in a fair and impartial manner, the Citizen's Initiative Review Commission (CIRC) begins that process with its first meeting on Wednesday, June 13, in Portland.

The CIRC will select one or more state measures proposed by initiative petition to be voted on in the November 2012 general election and convene a separate citizen panel to review each selected measure. Each citizen panel will evaluate and write statements for the measure considered by the panel.

The statements will be included in the official general election voter's pamphlet.

The passage of House Bill 2634 in the 2011 session of the Oregon State Legislature established the commission. Healthy Democracy Oregon, a non-profit organization promoting the citizen initiative review (CIR) process, conducted a pilot project focusing on two ballot measures during the 2010 general election.

Four commission members out of seven have been appointed by the governor's office:

- * Ann Bakkensen, a panelist on the first-ever CIR in Oregon
- * Jerry Hudson, former president of Willamette University
- * James Huffman, a Lewis & Clark Law School professor
- * Marion Sharp, MA, a program manager/academic professional at Portland State University

The commission will elect a chairperson, discuss appointment of additional commissioners, and discuss administrative rulemaking to focus on moderator qualifications and initiative selection criteria. Elliot Shuford, co-founder of Healthy Democracy Oregon, will provide an overview of the CIR process.

The meeting will start at 9:30 am in Conference Room 445 of the Portland State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon Street. Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) staff is facilitating the meeting and the CIRC's administrative functions.

For more information, visit <http://www.oregon.gov/CIRC>. For more information on OHLA, visit <http://www.oregon.gov/ohla>.