

1. **REFERRING TO THE VOTERS AN AMENDMENT OF THE CLATSOP COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER TO HOLD NOMINATING ELECTION FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

1.1 PURPOSE

1.1.1 Clatsop County Home Rule Charter §30(5) requires the Board of County Commissioners to establish by ordinance any measure to be referred to the voters. This ordinance is to refer to the voters a measure to amend the Clatsop County Home Rule Charter.

2.1 ADOPTION CLAUSE

2.1.1 The Board of Commissioners hereby refers to the voters, at the November 2000, general election, the following Amendment to the Clatsop County Home Rule Charter:

Clatsop County Home Rule Charter, Chapter III, Section 7, subsections (4)(b), (4)(c), and (4)(d) shall read: (added language in italics and deleted with strikeouts)

- (4)(b) Voters from even-numbered districts shall elect one Commissioner each ~~at the November general election~~ in presidential election years.
- (4)(c) Voters from odd-numbered districts shall elect one Commissioner each ~~at the November general election~~ in non-presidential election years.
- (4)(d) *A nominating election shall be held on the date of the biennial primary election for the year in which each district will elect a commissioner. The two candidates for each district receiving the highest number of votes for office shall be placed on the November general election ballot. If one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for that office at the nominating election then that candidate is elected. At the election the The candidate for each district who receives the highest number majority of votes cast for that office at the nominating election or the highest number of votes cast at the November general election shall be certified as elected to that office and shall assume office on the first Monday in January the following year. The effective date of this amended provision shall be January 3, 2001, and the first nominating election shall be held on the date of the primary election for 2002.*

The Board of Commissioners adopts the following Ballot Title:

CAPTION: AMENDS HOME RULE CHARTER, HOLDS NOMINATING ELECTION FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

QUESTION: Shall nominating elections for County Commissioner offices be held at the May primary prior to the applicable November general election?

FACTUAL EXPLANATION: Amends the Clatsop County Home Rule Charter. County Commissioners are now elected in the applicable November general election with the candidate who receives the most votes being elected for that district. A candidate does not need a majority of votes cast to be elected, only a plurality. This change would provide for a nominating election, which would take place at the May primary election prior to the applicable November general election, commencing in 2002. The two candidates with the most votes in the May election would be nominated to be placed on the November general election ballot. If one candidate receives a majority (more than fifty percent) of the votes cast in the May primary election, then that candidate is elected.