



## **DOUGLAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

*506 SE Jackson St, Roseburg, OR 97470*

### **Declaration 002 – Support Fair Access to Public Records**

On June 6, 2022, an estimate of the cost of electronic ballot images for the 2020 election was given to an election integrity group in Douglas County. The cost calculated by the County Clerk was \$51,211.

The records were not provided as the price demanded was not able to be met by an ordinary citizen.

Similarly, in Washington County a request was made for ballot images. On September 8, 2022 the Washington County Elections Division provided an estimate of \$65,223.50 to produce these images. On November 29, 2022 Washington County District Attorney found that the Elections Division “constructively denied Petitioner’s records request by imposing an unreasonable fee.” The District Attorney ordered a fee of \$279.61, reversing the prior decision of the Elections Division.

#### **Now therefore, it is hereby declared that:**

The Douglas County Republican Central Committee’s Executive Board supports the fair access of public records for all citizens. This position has already been clearly established in a Resolution that was unanimously passed by the Central Committee on July 23, 2022, “We agree on the following key principles to protect America’s election systems: voter ID laws for both in-person and mail-in voting, clean voter rolls, common-sense election administration safeguards, and all Oregon counties should be required to provide copies of ballot images, at no cost, to election integrity groups who provide a free public service whenever requested as per ORS192.324 section 5.” The newly elected Executive Board is reaffirming commitment to this precept.

As shown in Washington County, we believe that any excessive fee requests for records will be overturned through legal action. We encourage and support the Douglas County Election Division following the example of Washington County in always producing ballot images at a reasonable fee, not to exceed \$500.

Declared in Roseburg, Oregon, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December 2022.