Ballot Measure 68: How would it impact schools?

Statewide primary election: Tuesday, May 18, 2010

Ballot Measure 68, referred to the ballot by the Oregon Legislature, would amend the Oregon Constitution to allow Oregon public school districts to use bond proceeds to buy land and other assets, and would create a state matching fund to help finance school district capital costs.

Would allow state to match local capital improvement bonds

Measure 68 would allow the state to issue general obligation bonds and use the revenue from these bonds to pay some capital costs for local school districts. Oregon school districts with voter-approved capital bonds could receive state matching funds, lowering local costs for the project.

Currently, the state can issue general obligation bonds to help finance state university and community college capital costs. Measure 68 would add public school districts to that authority.

The measure would prohibit repaying the state bonds by raising property taxes. Rather, it would dedicate 15 percent of state lottery revenue to the school capital matching fund to repay state funds provided to districts. According to the state voters’ pamphlet statement*, the measure would have no financial effect on either state or local government expenditures or revenues.

Would allow schools to use bond funds for more capital costs

Measure 68 would broaden how Oregon school districts can use bond proceeds. Districts could use voter-approved bonds to buy land, furniture, equipment and textbooks and pay costs associated with capital projects such as professional fees.


Remember to vote by May 18!

Voters’ pamphlet mailed to voters: April 21–23
Voter registration deadline: April 27
Ballots mailed to voters: April 30–May 4
Ballots due to election offices: May 18

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