

Richardson reopens comment on initiative

By **PARIS ACHEN**
Capital Bureau



**Secretary of State
Dennis Richardson**

SALEM — Oregon Secretary of State Dennis Richardson has revised a proposal to ease restrictions on qualifying measures for the ballot.

The updated proposal allows petitioners to gather signatures for an initiative before the measure's ballot title is finalized. The change could enable more measures to make the ballot.

Existing rules suspend the signature-gathering process until legal battles have been settled and a title is finalized.

"Legal challenges often create delays of two to three months, or even longer, which is unnecessarily burdensome for grassroots petitioners that do not have the resources to hire a signature gathering service," said Alyssa Orlando,

to the state Supreme Court.

The changes proposed Wednesday were based on public comments Richardson has received since he made the original proposal in late August.

Richardson credited members of the League of Women Voters of Oregon for suggesting the revisions "to ensure voters have a clear idea of what they are signing."

He has reopened the public comment period until Thursday to accept feedback on the revisions.

The Republican secretary of state's proposal has triggered opposition from some Democrats and from the former executive director of labor-backed advocacy group Our Oregon.

State Rep. Dan Rayfield, D-Corvallis, an attorney, said Richardson may lack the legal

authority to make the changes, which could spark a legal challenge.

Opponents argue that gathering signatures before finalizing a ballot title would allow petitioners to circulate inaccurate or misleading information about the proposed measure to the public.

Rayfield said he could see a scenario in which petitioners gather signatures for various iterations of a ballot title, which could threaten the integrity of the initiative petition process.

He said he would prefer any changes to the restrictions on qualifying measures for the ballot to come from the Legislature.

Comments on the revised proposal can be emailed to the secretary of state's office at elections.sos@oregon.gov until 5 p.m. Thursday.

Clatsop County still struggling to air live commission meetings

By **JACK HEFFERNAN**
The Daily Astorian

search for another source of the issue.

"It takes six months to a year, sometimes, to get everything figured out and working the way it needs to work," said Moore, who cautioned residents prior to the first broadcast attempt to expect early glitches.

Clatsop County viewers hoping to watch live broadcasts of Board of Commissioners meetings likely have been left staring at black screens.

Following a contentious six-year process, Charter Communications installed the infrastructure needed for broadcasting prior to an October meeting. The county has tried to air three meetings live on public access channel 190 since then, but technical hiccups have prevented all or some parts of the meetings from being viewable.

The first two broadcasts were unsuccessful because the county possessed the wrong piece of equipment that acts as an interface between the Judge Guy Boyington Building and Charter,

County Manager Cameron Moore said. Though that issue was fixed, the broadcast was still unavailable for Wednesday's meeting, meaning technicians will need to

upgrade audio and install video capabilities at the Judge Guy Boyington Building, where the meetings take place, was approved by commissioners in 2016. Upgrades include video cameras, a projector and a retractable screen and audio improvements. Meeting broadcasts have been posted on YouTube and the county website.

Other technical issues and a lengthy negotiation over a franchise agreement had drawn out the public access channel's unveiling. County officials reached a franchise agreement with Charter in 2015 following several years of negotiations, and the company paid \$39,000 to cover the cost of the channel.

Cape D Coast Guard members arrested on rape charges

EO Media Group

ILWACO, Wash. — Two active-duty members of the Coast Guard stationed at Cape Disappointment were arrested Thursday and booked into Pacific County Jail on charges of second-degree rape and first-degree voyeurism.

The arrests of Guillermo J. Gutierrez, 27, of Ilwaco,

and Salvador M. Zamora, 24, of Tacoma, were made by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office with assistance from Coast Guard Investigations, according to the sheriff's office.

Gutierrez is being held on \$150,000 bail, and Zamora is being held on \$100,000 bail.

The arrests were made as the result of an investigation by the two agencies of a sexual

assault that allegedly occurred just outside of the incorporated limits of Ilwaco. Investigators learned of the sexual assault allegations in early September and began inquiries. The sheriff's office obtained search warrants and collected evidence that ultimately led to the arrests.

"The Pacific County Sheriff's Office values the rela-

tionship it has with the U.S. Coast Guard and appreciates the assistance they provided in investigating this case," Sheriff Scott Johnson said in a press release.

WE WANT TO HELP!
ON DECEMBER 22nd WE WILL BE DONATING A PERCENTAGE OF ALL SALES TO THE **ASTORIA CASA!**

**We will be donating a minimum \$250 regardless of sales.*

FLOWER | CONCENTRATES | EDIBLES
PREROLLS | ACCESSORIES | TOPICALS

MEDICAL RECREATIONAL

hi Casual Cannabis • 193 Marine Dr., Astoria, OR 97103 • 503.325.4078 • hiAstoria.com
Mystic Roots Cannabis • 38012 Highway 26, Seaside, OR 97138 • 971.225.7420 • MysticRootsCannabis.com

CELEBRATE GREAT SAVINGS

FREE
CORDLESS

25% Off

Select
Signature Series
Expires 12/31/17

Oregon Coast 503-738-5242
Lincoln City 541-994-9954
SW Washington 503-738-5242
www.budgetblinds.com

Budget Blinds

Style and service for every budget.

*Applies to select window treatments. Restrictions may apply. See store for details. Offer good for a limited time, not valid with any other offers, discounts, or coupons. Offer good at participating stores only. All participating stores may vary. ©2017 Budget Blinds. All Rights Reserved. Budget Blinds is a trademark of Budget Blinds, LLC and a Home Depot Company. All other trademarks and logos are the property of their respective owners.

No-questions-asked warranty + no-surprises price = no brainer.
Don't DIY. Have an expert do-it-for-you. Budget Blinds gives you an exclusive combination of design-driven products, expert service, no-surprises pricing, and our no-questions-asked warranty.

In Memory Of Bobby Jorgensen

December 16, 1970 - October 22, 1988

It is that time of year again. Birthdays are generally a time of reflection of the past year and making goals for the coming year. Bobby Jorgensen would have been 47 years old on December 16. What would his life have been like? What would his occupation be? How many kids would he have? What would be his passions? These unanswered questions fill my heart every year. I know I am not alone in my pain, as Bobby impacted 50 MANY people. I don't know what birthdays are like in heaven, but here on earth that special day comes with heartache for what should have been.

You should have gotten married and been a Dad. What a fun Dad I bet you would be! You should have had many mischiefs with your friends as you drifted a bit to find where to plant your roots. You should have been at Christmases with your family...mentoring your little brothers, protecting your sisters and celebrating their lives. You should have been playing with your nieces and nephews. You should have been growing old with us...keeping your childhood friends and making new ones. You should be here with us as we enter the new phase of watching our children spread their wings and fly.

But you already have wings. You have been in heaven watching and protecting us for 29 years. Many of our fellow Warriors have joined you up there in this time and for that I feel comfort that you have them.

We miss you Bobby Jorgensen. Happy Birthday in Heaven.

Love,
Jessica Dee
Brenda Hunt
Julie Jorgensen Martineau
Michael Jorgensen
Alan Jorgensen
and Your Dad,
who loves you so very much,
Bob Jorgensen

COMPLETE

AUTOMOTIVE

REPAIR & EXHAUST

503-325-6486

29348 Lewis & Clark Rd.
(Behind Landwehr's Country Grocer)