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Patrick Moran – President

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**HB 871 Election Law - Enhanced Automatic Voter Registration (AVR)  
Government, Labor, & Election Committee  
February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Thank you, Chair Wells, Vice-Chair Kerr, and members of the Government, Labor & Elections Committee, for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 871.

AFSCME Council 3 and its members support Enhanced Automatic Voter Registration (AVR), a policy that ensures every eligible citizen has the opportunity to vote without unnecessary barriers. AVR allows for voter registration to be automatically triggered when individuals interact with government agencies such as the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) unless they choose to opt out. This system has proven to promote fairer, more inclusive elections and ensure that voter rolls are up-to-date.

Enhanced Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) plays a crucial role in engaging new voters, keeping voter rolls up to date, and increasing the efficiency of the electoral process. By automatically registering eligible citizens when they interact with government agencies, AVR ensures that a wider, more diverse group of individuals are registered to vote, including those who might otherwise miss the opportunity. This process helps to keep voter rolls current by ensuring that changes such as address updates or name changes are reflected promptly, reducing the likelihood of outdated or inaccurate information. Moreover, AVR sets an example for other states and agencies to follow, leading by demonstrating how technology and streamlined systems can improve voter registration. The efficiency of AVR not only reduces administrative costs but also helps election officials maintain accurate, comprehensive, and up-to-date voter data, ultimately strengthening the integrity of the voting process.

Several states have already implemented Enhanced AVR. These states have seen tangible benefits in terms of higher voter registration rates and more accurate voter rolls. States such as Oregon, Colorado, Nevada, Delaware, New Mexico, Washington State, and Michigan, just to name a few.

Enhanced Automatic Voter Registration is a critical step toward ensuring that every eligible citizen has a fair opportunity to participate in our elections. By making the registration process more efficient and inclusive, AVR helps create a system that is more accessible, accurate, and democratic.

I appreciate your consideration, and we ask for a favorable report on HB 871.