

Ben Westlund for Governor
MEDIA RELEASE

WESTLUND ENCOURAGES LOCALS TO VOTE IN PRIMARY ELECTION
Local fiscal issues deserve a vote

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Bend, OR (May 10, 2006)- As the deadline to submit primary ballots approaches, questions have risen as to whether or not voters should participate in the upcoming election or sign Ben Westlund's petition to get him on the November ballot for Governor as an Independent.

Ben Westlund, currently the State Senator serving Deschutes County, is encouraging locals to vote in the primary elections.

"There are several fiscal issues on the May ballot that will affect local services," Westlund said. "They must have at least 50% turn-out to pass, so please vote."

Although Westlund needs 18,368 valid signatures to place him on the ballot in November, he does not want to discourage people from participating in their party's elections on May 16th.

A new law passed in the 2005 legislative session prohibits Republicans and Democrats who vote in the primary from signing Westlund's petition. Non-affiliated voters may sign the petition and vote in the primary.

"I am confident we will gather the necessary signatures from the 460,000 independent voters and those who do not participate in the primary elections," Westlund said. "But I want to thank everyone concerned for their support."

If you have further question regarding the petition process, you can visit www.benwestlund.com or contact their Bend headquarters at 541-382-8481 for more information.

