

**75TH OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY 2009 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
HOUSE REVENUE COMMITTEE**

**MEASURE: HB 2004
CARRIER: Rep. J. Smith
Rep. Bruun**

**REVENUE: No Revenue Impact
FISCAL: Minimal Fiscal Impact**

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 9-0-1
Yeas: Bailey, Bentz, Bruun, Gelser, Kahl, Read, Riley, Sprenger, Barnhart
Nays: 0
Exc.: Berger
Prepared By: Chris Allanach, Economist
Meeting Dates: 6/1

WHAT THE BILL DOES: Establishes the Oregon Political Party Fund. Allows a resident individual taxpayer filing a full-year tax return to designate a contribution be made to the Oregon Political Party Fund. Each contribution may be up to \$3 per taxpayer, reduces the amount of tax refund due, and is directed to the major or minor political party designated on the form. Requires the Department of Revenue to list all major and minor political parties in the instructions for the tax return. Identifies certain conditions under which the designation would be considered void and no contribution made. Applies to tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2009.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Value of civic engagement
- Tax form logistics

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS: None

BACKGROUND: Between 1977 and 1981 the Oregon Dollar Checkoff program allowed Oregon taxpayers the option of contributing \$1 of state taxes to the political party of their choice. The proposed policy would come from taxpayer refunds and is similar to the existing federal Presidential Election Campaign Fund program.

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