

**From Tom Bowerman to Senate Rules Committee Hearing April 21, 2015**

**Oregon Constitution:**

**Article 1 Section 8. Freedom of speech and press.** No law shall be passed restraining the free expression of opinion, or restricting the right to speak, write, or print freely on any subject whatever; but every person shall be responsible for the abuse of this right.—

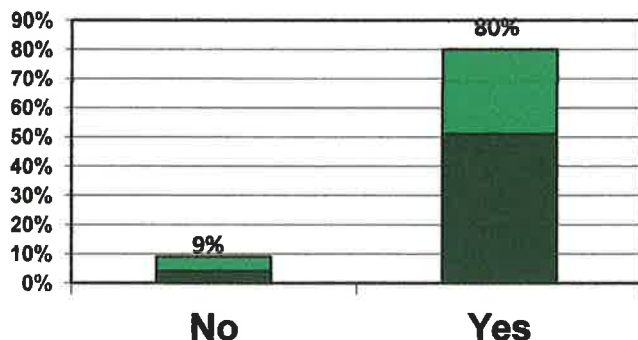
**Article 2 Section 8. Regulation of elections.** The Legislative Assembly shall enact laws to support the privilege of free suffrage, prescribing the manner of regulating, and conducting elections, and prohibiting under adequate penalties, all undue influence therein, from power, bribery, tumult, and other improper conduct.—

Amending Article 2 Section 8 through <sup>adding</sup> SJR 5 with SJR5-1:

The Legislative Assembly, or the people through the initiative process, may enact laws limiting or prohibiting contributions made in connection with political campaigns.

Opinion Surveying: Oregon Statewide Survey -

Q1. Do you agree or disagree with limiting campaign contributions to candidates for elected office and to political parties? Yes or No (DHM Research N=500 January 2011)



Oregon’s Supreme Court has found that the regulation of campaign contributions will require an amendment to Oregon’s Constitution. If a constitutional amendment were being voted on today, which of these two statements comes closer to your view even if neither represents your view exactly?

Response Category (pre & post 2012 general election, DHM Research random dial telephone)	Post-Election N=500	Pre-Election N=500
A. A constitutional amendment should be passed to limit spending by individuals and organizations.	69%	60%
B. Campaign spending is freedom of speech and should be protected by the Constitution.	27%	34%
(DON'T ASK) Don't know	4%	7%