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## HB 2578

Members of the Rules Committee:

My name is Mark Sturbois. I served for 16 years as the Legislative Chair of CWA 7901 and am currently a Political Advisor to the Local. I would like to advocate for HB2578. I believe it serves Citizens, Parties , Electeds and Challengers alike.

In today's climate, one of the first things that surfaces after a vote, or during a campaign for that matter, is where the money comes from. The logic of the vote and the integrity of the person casting it can be inundated depending on one's views of the contributors. We need to restore people's faith in the system. The program is voluntary so no one is forced to participate and there are many people in both chambers that due to the makeup of their District and or their performance in office don't need to spend massive amounts of money to be re elected. This gives more time to engage with constituents and making them have some buy in to your vision. It also saves party resources for targeted races.

On the other side of the coin there are many non affiliated voters in our state and people who may favor a neighborhood advocate, a young political worker , PTA or School board member whose candidacy is rendered non feasible due to the tsunami of cash required to be competitive. These are the people we lose.

This program is not a hand out. There are requirements designed to make sure candidate meets strong grass roots goals and rules on how the money is to be spent. I'm certain others will cite the places that have used this effectively and my testimony is to give my opinion on some of the pluses and minusses . I would urge passage from committee.

Thank You