

Feb 26, 2017

Committee Assistant for the House Committee on Rules Samantha Koopman OR

Dear Committee Assistant for the House Committee on Rules Koopman,

Big money is distorting our elections in Oregon. Sometimes the most money does not win....but the most money wins most of the time (probably 90%). Representative democracy cannot work when candidates must spend so much time "calling for dollars" and so little time hearing from constituents and accurately informing constituents.

Small donor matching has been successful in other states and cities in increasing the income range and increasing the sociologic categories of people able to run for office and able to participate in meaningful ways.

Please approve HB2578 with do pass recommendation.

Sincerely,

Mr. Bill Harris
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Portland, OR 97210-2803