



February 6, 2018

To: House Rules Committee

Re: Small Donor Elections

Date: February 8, 2018

RE: HB 4076 Support

Dear Chair Williamson, Vice-Chair McLane, and Committee Members:

The Oregon League of Conservation Voters (OLCV) wholeheartedly supports the Small Donor Elections bill, HB 4076. OLCV leads the fight to protect the environment in the state legislature by coordinating a statewide coalition of environmental groups that promotes environmental protection in the Legislature.

We urge you to pass this legislation to ensure that each Oregonian's voice is heard in our political sphere by making small donors a more powerful force in elections and reducing the need for candidates to rely on wealthy donors. As a member-driven organization that engages citizens in the legislative and political process here in Oregon, OLCV is committed to making sure that our members' voices are heard not only by elected officials, but by those running for office.

The Small Donor Election bill is a worthwhile investment in our democracy and the integrity of our elections. A Small Donor Elections program would help ensure that the state's budget and resources are used to forward the will of the people, not big money interests. By allowing candidates rely on a community support system to fund their campaigns instead of a few wealthy donors, Small Donor Elections make it harder for special interests to win policy carve outs and loopholes that benefit just a wealthy few individuals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paige Spence
Oregon Conservation Director
Oregon League of Conservation Voters