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To: House Rules Committee  
From: Kate Titus, Common Cause Oregon  
Re: HB 4077, Statement of Economic Interest Loophole  
Date: February 8, 2018

On behalf of Common Cause, I commend Rep. Rayfield for his leadership on financial disclosure, and would like to comment here on the bill before you.

#### **Common Cause**

Common Cause is a nonpartisan organization that works for open, honest, accountable government. We're more than one million powerful, fearless, ordinary Americans – including 25,000 Oregonians – who share a common cause, realizing a democracy that works for all of us.

#### **Support for HB 4077**

It may be that no one gets up each day motivated by disclosure policy – well, except maybe Rep. Rayfield... and me... and maybe some members of this committee. Nevertheless, most Oregonians do share common values about our democracy – that it should work for everyone, driven by principles of fairness, honesty, and high ethical standards, that everyone has a right to know who is influencing our elections or lobbying our government, and that our voice and vote should not be a function of wealth.

That's why Common Cause has a nearly 50-year history working for open and transparent government, going back to the 1970's, when we helped pass "Open Meeting" and "Sunshine" laws in many states, including Oregon, that opened up the process to the public, and continuing over the decades with disclosure laws aimed at campaign finances and conflicts of interest, like the one before you today.

Common Cause lawyers and policy experts have reviewed this bill, and we support it. It would close a loophole and strengthen Oregon's conflict of interest disclosure. I encourage your support.