

1 **IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON**
2 **FOR THE COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH**
3

4 In the Matter of: Validation Proceeding to
5 Determine the Legality of City of Portland
6 Charter Chapter 3, Article 3 and Portland
7 City Code Chapter 2.10 Regulating
8 Campaign Finance and Disclosure.
9

Civil No. 19CV06544

**DECLARATION OF
ALISSA KENY-GUYER**

10
11 I, Alissa Keny-Guyer, declare:
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- 13 1. I have served in the Oregon House of Representatives since 2011. I won
14 election to the District 46 seat in 2012, 2014, 2016, and 2018.
15
- 16 2. Limits on campaign contributions are necessary in order to combat
17 corruption and the appearance of corruption. As I stated in the video clip
18 I filmed for the Honest Elections campaign in 2018, I faced a particularly
19 egregious example of a fellow legislator who told me he couldn't vote for
20 my bill because of a direct threat that two lobbyists would donate \$10,000
21 to either him or his opponent, depending on how he voted on my bill. I
22 was aghast, and he chided me for being so naïve. I had realized that this
23 kind of innuendo often happens where a lawmaker may secretly worry
24 about future donations, but I was shocked at how blatant and direct this
25 communication was in the Capitol, no less. I begged my colleague not to
26 give the lobbyists that much power, but he looked down at the ground and
27 said how "hard" this was, and an hour later, voted down my bill.
28
- 29 3. I cried for hours that day, not only because the bill I had worked on for
30 three sessions had just died, but also because of how enormously
31 discouraged and disillusioned I was with our political system, where
32 money often has more influence than sound policy.
33
- 34 4. No one has ever directly offered me a contribution for a *quid pro quo*.
35 However, examples of where lobbyists tried to influence me more subtly
36 include: 1) asking me to carve out their sector from my bill that would
37 have regulated them, as I sat in the office of the lobby firm where
38 donation checks are usually doled out; 2) withholding checks from me in
39 years after I voted against certain bills, with the message that they'd

1 consider me again in the future after they had gotten over their
2 disappointment in my past vote(s); and 3) a landlord PAC offering me a
3 check a week before the short session started, where rent control was one
4 of our top priorities (I returned the check).

- 5
- 6 5. Limits on campaign contributions are necessary in order to avoid "arms
7 races" and excessive campaign spending. This can be seen in every tight
8 legislative race. Having canvassed for many candidates in swing districts,
9 I know that constituents in these districts often complain about how
10 overloaded they are with brochures and TV ads. There is a saturation
11 point where the excess money and materials turn many voters off.
12
- 13 6. Limits on campaign contributions are necessary in order to prevent
14 candidates and officeholders from using them for personal enrichment.
15 My main concern in the Oregon legislature is the lax laws we have with
16 regard to using legislative and campaign funds for family members, since
17 often family members work for the elected official. Our new wage equity
18 law aims to bring wage inequities (including paying one's relative a lot
19 more than other staff) under some review and control; however, we have
20 not yet tackled the issue of using campaign funds, especially to pay for
21 the expenses of relatives.
22
- 23 7. I support the use of campaign funds for certain personal expenses related
24 to campaigning (like child care) and then for doing the job as an elected,
25 although I believe the rules should be tightened. Many young families
26 and particularly young moms cannot run for office without help with child
27 care. Running for office is time away from the chance to make a living,
28 which eliminates the possibility for many lower income Oregonians to
29 become policy makers.
30
- 31 8. I also find it reasonable to use campaign funds to attend legitimate
32 conferences as a policy maker to learn how other states are tacking similar
33 issues since our legislative budgets are so small. My preference would be
34 to provide legislative funds for this purpose to relieve the pressure on
35 fundraising but taxpayers might object to their funds being used for what
36 may be perceived as junkets.
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- 38 9. This issue will become even more pertinent if we implement
39 taxpayer-funded small donor elections, since taxpayers will want and

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deserve more oversight of how those funds are used. A reasonable balance is needed with well thought out justification for spending categories.

I hereby declare that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I understand it is made for use as evidence in court and subject to penalty for perjury.

Dated: May 8, 2019

/s/ Alissa Keny-Guyer

Alissa Keny-Guyer

Signed in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing DECLARATION OF ALISSA KENY-GUYER by following methods:

- Electronic service - UTCR 21.100(1)(a)
- hand delivery
- facsimile transmission
- overnight delivery
- USPS first class mail
- courtesy email

Naomi Sheffield
Deputy City Attorney
City of Portland
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 430
Portland, OR 97204

Dated: May 8, 2019

/s/ Daniel W. Meek

Daniel W. Meek