

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 99-year-old grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

June 17, 2019

To: <u>Senate Committee on Rules</u> <u>Senator Ginny Burdick</u>, Chair

Email: srules.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: <u>**HB 2716 A**</u> – Campaign ads must include names of persons that paid for the communication – **Supportive**

Members of the League of Women Voters first studied campaign finance in 1973 and have advocated for our strong positions on the subject ever since.

The LWV of Oregon <u>previously commented March 13</u> in the House Rules Committee on the general importance of this bill. In this letter we want to comment on the specific features of the A-Engrossed version.

While the League thinks that the legislature should pass this bill, we believe that it could be greatly improved in three ways:

- 1. Include a "drill down" provision as in Washington State (Chapter 261, Laws of 2019) or Multnomah County (Measure 26-200 (2018)) laws. Without this feature, the intent of this bill could be easily evaded using the names of phony "dark money" committees.
- 2. Include candidate committees in this disclosure requirement.
- 3. Lower the disclosure threshold from the enormous \$10,000 to perhaps \$1,000, closer to normal campaign contributions.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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