

My name is Hyung Nam. I'm a public school social studies teacher and union member. I urge you to pass HB 3343 and mend HB 2680 to get big money out of politics. As the Oregonian series showed, Oregon stands out in the nation for being polluted by money. In times of record inequality, we must act to stop undermining the possibility of democracy and political equality with increasing economic inequality.

Voters spoke clearly in November, overwhelmingly approving Measure 107. Now is the time to finish the job. Our campaign finance system must have transparency and accountability to restore public confidence. We must avoid loopholes and other ways to game the system.

Also with HB 2680, while the small donor matching is great, we need to make sure that there aren't flaws to the bill that still allow the wealthiest donors to dominate. The testimony of Honest Elections Oregon has identified many large loopholes in the HB 2680 limits. Contribution limits should not be compromised by allowing contributions by for-profit corporations. Local governments should not be allowed to nullify limits for local candidates. This loophole also would create a backdoor to funnel big money to other races. Don't play favorites by giving the Democratic and Republican caucuses in the Legislature special rights to receive and make huge contributions. Don't change the definition of contribution in order to allow unlimited contributions to political parties. Self-funded candidates should be required to disclose in their ads how much they are spending on their campaigns.

We need enforcement that is independent of partisan government officials.

Thank you,
Hyung Nam