

Dear Members of the Oregon House Rules Committee,

I am writing to express my full support for the HB 2034, which would prohibit members of the Legislative Assembly from participating in discussions or debates where an actual conflict of interest exists. As a concerned citizen, I believe that this is a necessary and important step towards ensuring that our government is free from corruption and that the voices of all citizens are heard and valued equally.

As you are well aware, conflicts of interest are a common occurrence in politics and can arise in many different forms. Some legislators may have financial interests in the outcome of a particular debate, while others may have personal or family connections that could influence their decision-making process. Regardless of the nature of the conflict, it is clear that such biases can undermine the integrity of the democratic process and lead to decisions that do not reflect the true will of the people.

The proposed bill would help to address these concerns by ensuring that legislators are held to the highest ethical standards when participating in debates or discussions. By requiring lawmakers to recuse themselves from any discussions where a conflict of interest exists, we can help to ensure that the voices of all citizens are heard and that decisions are made solely on the basis of what is best for the people, rather than personal gain or influence.

I believe that this bill is a vital step towards restoring public trust in our government and ensuring that our democracy remains strong and vibrant. I urge you to do everything in your power to see that this bill is passed into law and that it is implemented in a manner that is fair, transparent, and effective.

My one concern with this bill is that it appears to rely on representatives/legislators to self-police and does not seem to enumerate any consequences should a representative/legislator be found to have failed to recuse themselves, as there is no mechanism for challenging a members' conflict of interests.

Thank you for your commitment to serving our community and for your efforts to promote ethical and responsible governance.

Sincerely,

Brian Jensvold