

Submitter: Walt Mintkeski
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB4024

Over the last five decades, as courts have rolled back rules that once governed campaign finance, big money influence has grown exponentially. The case which upsets me the most is “Citizens United”, in which the Supreme Court ruled that corporations have the right to spend money in candidate elections.

Oregon voters passed Measure 107 in November, 2020, authorizing the state legislature and local governments to (1) enact laws or ordinances limiting campaign contributions and expenditures; (2) require disclosure of contributions and expenditures; and (3) require that political advertisements identify the people or entities that paid for them.

Now is the time to pass real campaign finance reform which limits the amount of corporate contributions and requires disclosure of their contributions and expenditures. If the Oregon Legislature does not do during this 2023 session, it will be left to voters to pass at the ballot this November.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of strong campaign finance regulations in Oregon and in opposition to HB 4024.