

Next Up Action Fund  
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TO: House Committee on Rules  
DATE: February 24, 2024  
RE: Next Up Action Fund Support for HB 4024

Chair Fahey, Vice Chairs Helfrich and Kropf and Members of the Committee,

We are Next Up Action Fund and we work to build political power with diverse young people to achieve a more just and equitable Oregon. As an organization that builds political power and strong, effective leadership avenues for diverse young people, our work and our communities are greatly impacted by campaign finance reform. We are in support of HB 4024, because this proposal creates an equal playing field for organizations and individuals on all sides of the political spectrum, no matter how much money they have.

Organizations like Next Up Action Fund work year round to connect and build trust amongst young diverse young people ages 13 - 35, especially with Black, Indigenous, Asian and Pacific Islander, Latine and impacted youth to talk about the issues that matter to them and how they are affected by electoral systems. This also includes get out the vote efforts so young people ages 18 to 29, many of whom may be first time voters, have relevant and necessary information that they need to engage in the electoral process.

Over the past few years we have been engaged in extensive conversations with legislators, labor organizations, campaign finance reform advocates (locally and nationally) and other (c)4 nonprofits to discuss the best path forward. In those conversations we have continued to highlight that we must pursue campaign finance reform policies that ensure that other emerging grassroots organizations, especially emerging Black, Indigenous, and people of color led organizations who have historically been excluded, can meaningfully engage in similar ways in the future.

We know the importance of being able to organize small donors for elections, do grassroots organizing, person-to-person direct voter engagement, multilingual voter outreach, and more. HB 4024 places reasonable limits on in-kind contributions, allowing smaller community-based organizations like ours and others to continue

participating in meaningful ways, even when we do not have the funds to participate in paid communications through independent expenditures.

Thank you for your efforts to create meaningful campaign finance reform, please pass HB 4024 out of committee.

Thank you for your time,

Isabela Villarreal  
Policy and Communications Manager  
Next Up Action Fund