

Submitter: D Torres
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB4024

House Rules Committee,

I adamantly OPPOSE this legislation.

Although I appreciate the effort among all parties to advance campaign finance reform, the current proposal does not serve any goals I nor anyone should support.

This bill as written will limit free speech through limiting the average citizens contributions to the candidate of their choice and give the rich and more organized groups a larger contribution voice. Unlimited donations from the party institutions would require more loyalty to the party over loyalty to the voters.

This proposal supercharges the biggest corporations and entities in allowing them to spend vastly more than everyone else, dominating the political landscape. It limits the smaller grassroots efforts and everyday Oregonians, leaving them even less powerful than they are now, compared with the super-spenders. This legislation preserves the power of the very biggest spenders – ultimately leaving the status quo intact.

I would love to see the legislature pass meaningful campaign finance reform – including limits that prevent big money from any source from dominating our elections and politics, transparency that lets voters know the true original sources of funds spent to persuade us, and public matching funds that make even the smallest contributions matter, ensuring candidates can raise enough to run competitive campaigns without big money backing.

I strongly urge you to either fix or scrap this proposal.