

honest-elections.com

info@honest-elections.com

National Study of Anti-Corruption (Nov. 2015) Grades Oregon: F

Public Access to Information	F
Political Financing	F
Executive Accountability	F
Legislative Accountability	D-
Procurement	F
Lobbying Disclosure	F
Ethics Enforcement Agencies	F





Worst States in Political Finance Regulation

- 45. North Dakota
- 46. Virginia
- 47. Indiana
- 48. Wyoming
- 49. Oregon
- 50. Mississippi





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2022 CAMPAIGN FINANCE INDEX

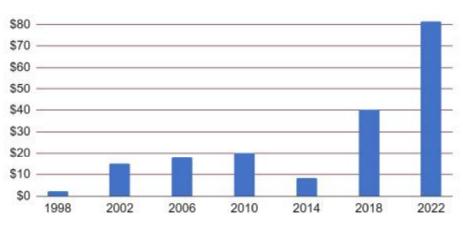
Rank	State	Score
1	Washington	83.99
2	California	80.95
3	Maine	80.48
4	Connecticut	79.52
5	District of Columbia	78.27
6	Maryland	78.04
7	Kansas	77.56
8	Missouri	77.14
9	Alaska	76.79
10	Montana	76.31
11	Hawaii	75.36
12	Oklahoma	73.87

39	Georgia	57.56
39	Louisiana	57.56
41	Wyoming	56.73
42	Florida	56.49
43	Virginia	55.48
44	North Dakota	52.74
44	Oregon	52.74
46	Nevada	52.32
47	New Hampshire	51.73
48	Alabama	49.64
49	Utah	45.48
50	South Dakota	45.06
51	Indiana	38.33

Coalition for Integrity

LIMITS ON POLITICAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

Spending by Oregon Governor Candidates (\$\$\$ millions)



Betsy Johnson Donors > \$200,000

Philip Knight	\$3,750,000
The Pape Group (heavy machinery)	\$750,000
Freres Timber, Inc.	\$250,000
Sierra Pacific Industries (lumber)	\$500,000
Tim Boyle (Columbia Sportswear)	\$664,000
Kathleen Jones-McCann (Seneca Lumber)	\$350,000
Robert Freres, Jr. (timber)	\$250,000
Sidney DeBoer (Lithia Motors)	\$250,000
Sause Brothers (tugboats, barges)	\$200,000
OrePac Building Products	\$200,000

Christine Drazen Donors > \$200,000

\$4,083,749
\$1,500,000
\$500,000
\$350,000
\$350,000
\$250,000
\$250,000
\$250,000
\$200,000
\$200,000

Tina Kotek Donors > \$150,000

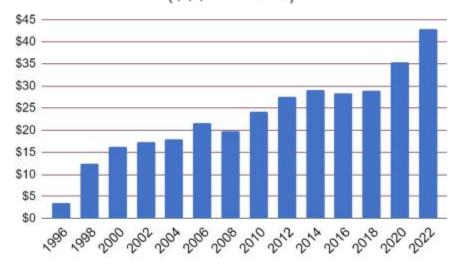
\$4,879,000
\$600,000
\$300,000
\$580,000
\$600,000
\$250,000
\$465,000
\$300,000
\$175,000
\$150,000
\$150,000
\$150,000

Contribution Limits re Governor

Alaska	\$ 500	Kansas	\$ 2,000
Colorado	\$ 575	Maine	\$ 1,600
Connecticut	\$ 250	Montana	\$ 1,990
Delaware	\$ 1,200	W. Virginia	\$ 1,000
New Hamp.	\$ 1,000	Mass.	\$ 1,000
Rhode Is.	\$ 1,000	Wash.	\$ 2,400

before adjustments for inflation

Spending by Oregon Legislature Candidates (\$\$\$ millions)



Oregon Legislature 2012 – 2022: Average Spending by Top 10 Candidates:

Oregon Senate	Oregon House	
2022 \$ 1,507,236	2022 \$ 866,592	
2020 \$ 953,311	2020 \$ 925,815	
2018 \$ 664,000 2016 \$ 609,000	2018	
2014 \$ 750,000	2014 \$ 684,000	
2012 \$ 550,000	2012 \$ 661,500	

Contribution Limits to Legislators

Alaska	\$ 500	Kansas	\$ 500
Colorado	\$ 200	Maine	\$ 400
Connect.	\$ 250	Montana	\$ 170
Delaware	\$ 600	Wisconsin	\$ 500

Contribution Limit to Legislators: \$1,000 per Person

Florida Rhode Island

Idaho South Carolina Massachusetts South Dakota

Michigan Varmant

Michigan Vermont

Minnesota Washington

New Hampshire West Virginia

before adjustments for inflation

2016 Multnomah County Charter Amendment = 89% "Yes"

Prohibits contributions by corporations and other entities

Limits candidate to receiving \$500 from any individual or PAC

Small Donor Committees can aggregate contributions of \$100 or less and spend as desired

Requires that 5 largest true original sources of funds (of \$500 or greater) be prominently disclosed on political advertisements

2018 Portland City Charter Amendment = 87% "Yes"

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Supporters of Portland Measure



DISCLOSURE AND REQUIRED TAGLINES ON POLITICAL ADS

Oregon Lacks Disclosure

Oregon Legislature in 2001 repealed law requiring that political ads identify their source

The Corporate Reform Coalition (75 organizations) in 2012: only 6 states are worse than Oregon in disclosing independent expenditures

Oregon = "F" Washington = "A"

Other States Have Disclaimers

11 States require that political ads identify their \$\$\$ sources:

California Hawaii Colorado Massachusetts Maine Arizona Minnesota Vermont Virginia Washington Montana

Oregon Bribery Statute

ORS 162.015 Bribe giving.

- (1) A person commits the crime of bribe giving if the person offers, confers or agrees to confer any pecuniary benefit upon a public servant with the intent to influence the public servant's vote, opinion, judgment, action, decision or exercise of discretion in an official capacity.
- (2) Bribe giving is a Class B felony.

Oregon Bribery Statute

ORS 162.025 Bribe receiving.

- (1) A public servant commits the crime of bribe receiving if the public servant:
- (a) Solicits any pecuniary benefit with the intent that the vote, opinion, judgment, action, decision or exercise of discretion as a public servant will thereby be influenced; or
- (b) Accepts or agrees to accept any pecuniary benefit upon an agreement or understanding that the vote, opinion, judgment, action, decision or exercise of discretion as a public servant will thereby be influenced.

Oregon Bribery Statute

ORS 1625 Definitions.

(1) "Pecuniary benefit' means gain or advantage to the beneficiary or to a third person pursuant to the desire or consent of the beneficiary, in the form of money, property, commercial interests or economic gain, but does not include a political campaign contribution reported in accordance with ORS chapter 260.

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Taglines 2014 Election – Richmond CA

Taglines on candidate ads foiled the massive attempt by Chevron, Inc. in 2014 to take over the government of Richmond, California.

Accidents (including huge explosions) at the Chevron refinery in Richmond released toxic gases. The Richmond City Council pushed for toxic controls and sued Chevron for damages resulting from a major fire in 2012 that sent thousands of Richmond residents to hospitals.

Taglines 2014 Election – Richmond CA

Chevron tried to take over the city government by running candidates for mayor & all city council seats. Chevron spent over \$3 million promoting its 4 candidates (\$281 per voter), outspending other candidates by 50-fold.

But California law required that the ads identify their major funder: Chevron, Inc.

All Chevron's candidates lost overwhelmingly.

"Blurred source of donations reveals quirk in law" (2)

AP · by TOM JAMES · May 11, 2018

The cloaking of campaign funds reveals a loophole in Oregon law: Anonymous donations from individuals are illegal, but donations from anonymously-run corporations are not. A company's name alone satisfies Oregon laws requiring candidates to list sources of donations, even if company documents don't list the actual owners.

State licensing laws allow corporations to be set up without listing their actual owners or beneficiaries.

"Loophole makes it tough to follow money in Oregon campaigns"

AP · by COOPER GREEN · September 11, 2017

But there's a hole in the system: The public can only see single transactions on the state's website and in public records. If a candidate passes contributions to another candidate, or to a reelection fund for fellow party members, the public can no longer see the money's original donor.

These transactions are pass-throughs — allowed in unlimited quantity under Oregon law.

2

"Loophole makes it tough to follow money in Oregon campaigns" 2

AP · by COOPER GREEN · September 11, 2017

Statesman Journal analysis of campaign finance shows that candidates have utilized this system of pass-throughs more than 2,800 times in the last 3 election cycles alone, transferring \$18.7 million between themselves.

This means that more than a quarter of all money involved in legislative campaigns has seen more than one lawmaker as it moves through the system.

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Figure 1: Oregon Past and Projected Greenhouse Gas Emissions Compared to Goals (Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, 2020)

