

Dear Chair Fahey, Vice Chairs Helfrich and Kropf, and other members of the House Rules Committee,

I submitted testimony last week in opposition to an earlier - amendment and see no meaningful improvement in the -5 amendment. I urge you to vote no on HB 4024 - 5 and instead support IP 9 which represents meaningful campaign finance reform: IP 9 will limit the role and influence of large corporations and entities in our politics, allow the voices of all Oregonians to be heard, curb corruption in our political system, and encourage transparency in the influence and votes of our elected officials. Without meaningful campaign finance reform that we see in IP 9, Oregonians will simply be unable to deal effectively with the climate crisis, income inequality, lack of accessible and affordable health care including mental and behavioral health care, lack of affordable housing, food insecurity, or lack of services in rural areas including education, reliable internet, libraries, emergency services and more. Without campaign finance reform we cannot even protect our drinking water let alone Oregon's iconic forests and other natural resources.

Frankly, it is obvious to everyone that HB 4024 as amended is simply an effort to stop the momentum of IP 9 and serious campaign finance reform. HB 4024 does nothing more than assure Oregon will continue to rank 49th out of 50 states in restrictions on the influence of campaign money on our politics. I urge you to do the right thing here and scrap HB 4024 -5.

Laura Allen, Seaside