

Submitter: Alex Polikoff
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB4024

Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Knopp and members of the Rules Committee,

I write in opposition to HB 4024-5.

The bill as amended provides huge loopholes due to the definition of “persons”, and gives advantages to incumbents over challengers and major parties over minor parties. It has ineffective disclosure and disclaimer requirements, and the allowable contributions under the bill would still result in undue influence with political candidates.

It appears the frantic effort to cobble this bill together was an attempt to head off the potential passage of the IP9 ballot initiative in the fall. If passed, IP9 would take effect January 2025, whereas HB 4024 waits a full two years after that to take effect. That alone would be enough reason to oppose the bill.

HB 4024 is a very small band-aid on a very large wound in Oregon’s democratic system of government. Please do not pass this legislation out of Committee and instead put your efforts toward the real campaign finance reform represented by IP9, which was vetted by good-government groups throughout the state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Alex Polikoff
Corvallis OR