To: Representative Paul Holvey, Chair, House Rules Committee Senator Jeff Golden, Chair, Senate Committee on Campaign Finance
From: Tom Bowerman
Date: March 12, 2019
RE: Public Testimony on HJR13 and SJR13

I support both HJR13 and SJR13 as suitable options for allowing Oregon to place reasonable limits on political campaign spending. I do not support HJR18 because it lacks the breadth of the other two bills.

Concerning the choice between resolution referrals HJR13 or SJR13, the essential difference is whether you refer to the voters an amendment to Article I or Article II of Oregon's constitution. There are pros and cons to each. If the experts who say a successful referral of Article II will stand judicial appeal and allowance of campaign finance limits notwithstanding Article I are correct, then I agree that an Article II amendment is the path of lesser resistance.

The general public is solidly behind campaign finance limits and disclosure of political campaign spending, with an 83-89% level of support, depending on question language and individual poll.

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