

**HB 2983 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Boquist

**Senate Committee On Rules**

**Minority Report**

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**Action Date:** 06/17/19

**Action:** Do pass with amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.) Minority

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Report Signers:** Sen. Herman Baertschiger Jr., Sen. Brian Boquist

**Prepared By:** Josh Nasbe, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 6/12, 6/17

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires certain groups or organizations that accept donations and make certain political communications in excess of specified amount to file, with Secretary of State, list of donors whose donation exceeds \$10,000 during election cycle. Excludes communications reported as contribution, expenditure or independent expenditure on ORESTAR. Requires organization to update list throughout election cycle. Authorizes Secretary of State to impose civil penalty for failure to file timely and accurate list. Prohibits reimbursing another for providing campaign contribution or donation to organizations subject to disclosure requirements. Reduces amount of independent expenditure, from \$750 to \$250, requiring disclosure in ORESTAR. Establishes procedures for certain election-related investigations. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- "Dark money" vs. transparency
- Flow of money in politics

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Modifies definition of "political communication" triggering obligation to disclose, to exclude contributions reported on ORESTAR. Eliminates authority of Attorney General to issue subpoenas to enforce election laws. Eliminates modified definition of "communication in support of or in opposition to a clearly identified candidate or measure."

**BACKGROUND:**

Oregon law requires candidates, political committees and petition committees, as well as individuals and entities that make independent expenditures, to disclose certain information related to campaign contributions and expenditures. House Bill 2983 MRB requires certain groups and organizations that make political communications in excess of specified amounts (e.g., \$25,000 per legislative race) - exclusive of any amounts reported on ORESTAR - to disclose information related to donations that exceed \$10,000. House Bill 2983 MRB authorizes the imposition of civil penalties to enforce these obligations. In addition, House Bill 2983 MRB modifies the scope of independent expenditures that must be reported, expands the obligation to maintain election-related records and prohibits reimbursing another person for campaign contributions or donations.