

SB 336 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 3/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits candidates for state office or principal campaign committee for candidate for state office from accepting contributions in excess of amounts specified and from sources unspecified, delineating different thresholds for different state offices and from different sources. Creates specific types of political committees to be registered with the Secretary of State and prohibits a person from controlling more than one political committee at once time. Delineates what constitutes contributions made to or from a single political committee. Prohibits certain political committees from accepting contributions in excess of amounts specified and from sources unspecified, and prohibits certain contributions made by certain political committees. Clarifies what constitutes separate elections. Establishes no contribution limits from a candidate's personal funds or from public bodies. Provides the Secretary of State with rulemaking authority. Repeals campaign finance laws established in 2006 (Ballot Measure 47). Sets operative date for certain provisions as November 9, 2022.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Ballot Measure 47 (2006), as adopted by the people, established campaign contribution limits from individuals and banned contributions from corporations and unions. It was designed to be adopted in tandem with Ballot Measure 46 (2006)—a constitutional amendment allowing campaign contributions, which would allow the accompanying changes in statute to be enforced. Ballot Measure 46 was not adopted, which led to the question of whether the language adopted in Ballot Measure 47 (2006) was constitutional. In 2006, the Secretary of State (SOS) and the Attorney General determined that the provisions in Ballot Measure 47 (2006) could not be enforced and in 2012, the Oregon Supreme Court in *Hazell v. Brown*, 352.Or 455 (2012) concluded that the limits were indeed inoperative.

Ballot Measure 107 (2020), as adopted by the people, permits the enactment of laws to regulate the use of money in political campaigns.

Senate Bill (SB) 336 proposes several changes to campaign finance laws to be operative as of November 9, 2022. First, it establishes contribution limits for state office candidates or principal campaign committees for state office candidates from different sources with an exclusion for a candidate's personal funds or from public bodies. SB 336 also creates specific types of political committees to be registered with the SOS and clarifies what constitutes separate elections, for the sake of determining contribution limits.