

(I was invited to speak first of the public testimony, but, could not be heard and was passed to next person.)
Chair Wagner, Vice-Chair Girod, and members of the Senate Rules Committee:

I am Bill Harris a membr of Common Cause Oregon, Ours is an organization devoted to the common good for more than 50 years. My comments today are my own and not the official position of Common Cause Oregon.

I very much support the spirit and generally the content of SB336. I am thrilled to b part of the long needed process to blunt the distortion of our election results created by large and often essentially secret campffaign contributions.

In our present unregulated system we have distorted election processes:

- legitimate public concern that big money largely dominates outcome of elections.
- genuine citizen attitude that "I cannot really make any difference"
- talented potential candidates choose not to run if they do not have personal connections to large contributors
- candidates spending remarkable amounts of time dialing for dollars.

With our present unregulated Oregon system we have immense unresolved problems including:

- great disparity in wealth and income
- economically regressive state tax system
- __immensely impaired efforts to change our behavfoir to meet the challenges of the climate crisis and to do so in a manner that recognizes ecologic justice for all parts of Oregon society.

We want strong regulation of election money, but, it must be good reform that will eliminate the distortion of our elections and secondarily make possible our ability to manage and solve our greatest societal problems. Sen Golden's bill, SB366 will be part of the process that leads us this session to regulations that work, We need this committee, hereby early in the process, to be a leading factor in getting passage of a good bill.

Bill Harris
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