

TO: Senate Rules Committee  
RE: support for SB 336, Contribution Limits  
March 10, 2021  
Senator Wagner and esteemed Committee Members:

My name is Margie Trifari, and I am a citizen volunteer state leader here in Oregon for Represent Us, A national organization that authored and promotes the American Anti- Corruption Act. We are a cross-partisan Organization, with a strong outreach program to involve citizen voters in representing a common desire to fix the broken places in our democratic process, particularly when it comes to special interest influences that undermine the public interest. We currently have around 1,000 members throughout the state of Oregon.

While Oregon leads the nation in some of its democratic reforms, such as mail-in voting, and motor-voter legislation, we seem to have some difficulty when it comes to campaign finance reform. Our elections have become, not only unnecessarily expensive but are also fertile ground for special interest pandering that leaves out the interest of the individual voter/donor.

Oregon voters have stood up and asked our legislators for contribution limits in not one, but two elections with compelling majority votes in favor of setting contribution limits. It stands to reason that this fact alone makes it clear what the people of Oregon want you to do. I am asking you to do what the people of Oregon have asked you to do by passing this legislation.

As a grandmother of 4, I also have a personal stake in seeing this legislation pass. There is no question that they will be facing some harsh economic and environmental changes in their future. The clock is ticking, and they will need to be prepared for what is to come. We will need to eliminate the ability of a few to purchase influence, in order to build a strong foundation for Representative democracy sooner rather than later, so we can help them prepare. I thank the committee for hearing me, and I wish to thank Senator Golden for sponsoring this bill.

Sincerely,  
Margie Trifari