

Committee Chair Barbara Smith Warner and Members of the House Committee on Rules

Dear Representatives,

I have an emergency family matter arise so I cannot attend the virtual hearing on these two bills today so this is my very short observations for your consideration:

Of these two bills, HB 3343 is the better for two reasons: 1) the limits proposed are reasonable for Oregon's political culture and public opinion and the language is comprehensible to the average citizen.

HB 2680 draft is incomprehensible in places, makes my head ache to try to put the entire package together, and I predict the unlimited contributions to certain categories of stakeholders will continue the tendency of kingmakers above representative democracy. Outside of my feelings about read-ability and the unreasonably high limits provided by HB2680, there are several sections containing good transparency and regulatory directions which deserve to be any omnibus campaign finance law.

I would urge you to keep in mind the key components the Washington State campaign finance law to be used as a template for Oregon's very similar political culture.

Oregon definitely has some work to do to join other states who have reasonable campaign fiance laws. It is past time to get this done.

Sincerely, Tom Bowerman, Lane County, Oregon