



From the office of
REPRESENTATIVE KARIN POWER
House District 41

Chair Smith Warner, Vice Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Holvey, and members of the committee,

With the overwhelming passage of Measure 107, Oregonians delivered us a mandate to get big money out of politics and deliver on campaign finance reform.

As a young person aspiring to public service, I started out by running for a seat on the Milwaukie City Council in a race that cost less than \$10,000 for me to connect with, and gain support from, my community. Becoming one of the then-youngest elected officials in the state gave me the opportunity to partner with more experienced policy makers who helped me get to where I am today, and to ground me in the work that I am now able to do for my district. I want other Oregonians to be able to follow similar paths.

Oregon is currently one of only five states in the country that does not place a limit on campaign contributions, and increasingly expensive elections – from gubernatorial races all the way down to school board elections – are what we have to show for it. Today, money and the time to fundraise is a barrier that keeps many terrifically qualified candidates from following a path like my own to serve, represent, and better their communities. For this reason, I strongly support HB 3343 to eliminate those barriers to serve, and to eliminate the rising influence of big money in Oregon politics.

Thank you for the opportunity to join you today.