

Submitter: Linda Kentro
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB4024

To: House Rules Committee
From: Linda Kentro, The Dalles
Re: Please Oppose HB 4024-3
Date: February 23, 2024

Chair Fahey, Vice Chair Helfrich, Vice Chair Kropf, Members of the House Rules Committee:

I have been dismayed that my state ranks worst in the country for corporate campaign contributions per capita, which surely shifts lawmaker accountability away from their communities and to their big donors. I had high hopes for transparent, pro-citizenry campaign finance reform after 78% of Oregon citizens voted yes to Measure 107 in 2020. Now I see that HB 4024-3 is set to quickly shove through some thoroughly wrong-headed campaign finance “reforms” which I decidedly oppose.

This bill and amendment would worsen, not improve, our campaign finance situation through:

- Substitution of key language (“person” for “individual”) which would limit the contributions of single persons but allow outside contributions from member organizations as well as “small donor committees”
- Allowing multiple membership organizations and small donor committees to be easily created by single entities
- Limiting legal redress to the receiver of the contribution, rather than the giver
- Allowing huge and significant in-kind contributions, foreign entities to contribute in our election process and campaign funds to be carried over to later years.

This is reform??? This bill and amendment must be defeated.

Initiative Petition 9 presents transparent campaign finance reform provisions and we should vote on it in November.