

HB 2871

2025 Legislative Session

Representative Paul L. Evans
Presenting on March 4, 2025

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Speak the Truth.
Transparency Breeds Legitimacy.
- John Maxwell

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Three (3) Questions:

1. Where is the Dividing Line between “Private” and “Public?”
2. At what point along the continuum is a “private” business more a part of governance, than exclusively, a private entity?
3. Is there not a “Public Interest” in knowing what corporations are a part of the apparatus of governance?

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Four (4) Truths:

1. State Law (ORS 240.185) EXPLICITLY prohibits a state workforce of more than 1.5% of the state's population of the year before. *
2. Convergent CRISES (COVID-19, Homelessness/Behavioral Health Crises, and aging "Silver Tsunami" Demanded greater FLEXIBILITY in Delivery of services previously Recognized as Inherently "Public" in Nature.
3. Non-Profits and Private organizations have Grown Significantly as a Result and with Far Less Oversight and Transparency.
4. The Public Should KNOW if a "Private Corporation" receives some, much, or nearly all Gross Income from Public Funding.

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What HB 2871 DOES:

1. Establishes Terms for Various Degrees of Public Funding Dependence.
 - ▶ Affiliate (20% or More from Public Funding).
 - ▶ Partner (35% to 49% or More from Public Funding).
 - ▶ Agent (50% or More from Public Funding).
2. Requires Disclosure of Gross Amounts of Public Funding on Annual Basis.
3. Requires Corporation to Publicly Recognize, through Legal Attestation, Most Appropriate Term for Business Model.
4. Clarifies the Line between Private and Public Interests.

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What HB 2871 DOES NOT:

1. Requires Odious or Wasteful Reprioritization of Work for an Inherently “Private” organization. 20% as Baseline suggests Significant Public Funding, and therefore, Oversight and Transparency.
2. Produce COSTLY Administrative Burdens. Declaration procedures Can, Should, and Must be made for Simplified Compliance.
3. Strip away Corporate Privacy Rights or in Any Way Weaken Corporate Legal Protection.
4. Punish Corporations Dependent upon Public Funding. Greater Transparency is a Public Value, It is Helpful for Determining Total Funds Budgeting Priorities.

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How many times have we heard, “Run Government MORE Like a Business...” ?

There are distinct differences between Private Sector and Public Sector Motivators, but Perhaps there are some Lessons We Can Discern.

It Starts with Knowing What Corporations are Actually MOSTLY Private.

What Do We Have to Fear?