

To: Senate Committee on Rules

From: Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN)

Re: In support of HB 2930

Date: May 15, 2025

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, Members of the Senate Committee on Rules:

I write today on behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network, COIN, a coalition of over 50 local grassroots Indivisible groups throughout Oregon that work together to advance important federal and state legislation and engage with elected officials to promote progressive causes for the benefit of all Oregonians.

We strongly support HB 2930, to expand Oregon's current conflict of interest laws to include people who live in the same household as public officials.

In the interest of more transparency and less corruption, this bill makes perfect sense. While COIN recognizes and appreciates that the vast majority of our public officials in Oregon are honorable and ethical, we believe HB 2930 will better protect Oregonians. It's not too hard to imagine that a benefit to a "member of the household" of some public officials might be temptation enough to influence a vote or a policy decision. It happens. Hopefully not often, but this bill will help ensure that it happens less often.

We trust that no members of your households have accepted a gift of, for example, a luxury 747 Boeing jet from a foreign government, but if so, it is only reasonable for the citizens of Oregon to expect you to recuse yourself from any votes or other decision-making related to that foreign government. To do otherwise would obviously be blatant corruption.

Please pass HB 2930 to increase accountability and ethical standards in government, at least here in Oregon.

Respectfully,

Deborah Ferrer, The Dalles on behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) www.coinoregon.org