

Submitter: Neil Johnson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3392

The excuse suddenly offered for the amendment is a letter by Oregon Secretary of State Tobias Read, complaining about the lack of time to write the rules necessary to implement HB 4024. The letter was requested by the Democratic and Republican leaders of the Legislature on June 17. It was written on June 19 and revealed on June 24. But there has been no lack of time. HB 4024 already provided a 34-month period from early March 2024 to the effective date of its campaign contribution limits in January 2027. HB 4024 also provided a 46-month period before its additional disclosure requirements would take effect in January 2028. That is ample time to write implementation rules, as confirmed by national experts.

45 other states have implemented campaign contribution limits and disclosure requirements. So has Multnomah County and City of Portland, which implemented them within a few months of their adoption by voter initiatives. Is Oregon government so incompetent that it cannot manage this, even when already given essentially 3 years to prepare for the contribution limits and 4 years to prepare for the disclosure requirements? Isn't that asserted incompetence convenient for politicians who benefit from big money?