



February 10, 2025

Chair Bowman, Vice Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Pham, and members of the committee:

My name is Odalis Aguilar Aguilar and I am a political coordinator at Oregon AFSCME. Our union represents over 42,000 workers across the state in both public and private sectors and we believe in economic and social justice for all Oregon workers and their families. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the record today. Oregon AFSCME has supported the campaign finance reform process at every step of the way, and we look forward to continuing our work with partners in the Legislature to ensure our campaign finance system works for everyone.

I write to you today in support of House Bill 4018 with the -6 amendment. Oregon AFSCME believes this is the best path forward to implement campaign contribution limits while also ensuring a responsible launch of this critical, democracy-advancing policy.

Oregonians have consistently supported free, fair, and safe elections. Our state has long been a leader in elections participation and security. Part of making the elections process equitable is leveling the playing field, so that contributions made by corporations and the wealthy are weighed equitably against contributions from the public. Limiting campaign spending allows all voices to be heard. The Secretary of State has made it clear that they need at least \$25 million to implement this law fully, and we know that every day that passes, the price tag goes up and the likelihood that the aggressive timeline will be met diminishes.

Rolling out the package precisely and efficiently is also necessary. We understand this is a complex and difficult proposal to carry out, especially in the face of chaos and budget cuts coming down from the federal government. We support phased-in implementation to ensure the process is as smooth as possible. The Secretary of State has also put forward a number of technical fixes that we are supportive of; the bill clarifies the disclosure and disclaimer requirement language, making it easier to understand and comply with for regulators and practitioners alike.

Oregonians around the state want and deserve fair elections where the voices of everyday people are not drowned out by millionaires and billionaires making unlimited political contributions. We value a fair and democratic electoral process, Oregon AFSCME stands ready to partner with the Legislature and continue all of the good work that has been put into this. We urge your support for HB 4018 with the -6 amendment.

In solidarity,