



NORTHWEST HEALTH
FOUNDATION

February 9, 2026

Dear Chair Bowman, Vice Chair Elmer and Representatives Pham, Grayber, Kropf, Skarlatos, and Wallen,

Our country is talking about democracy more than ever before—and that is a good thing. At its core, democracy depends on fair, accessible, and trusted elections. In 2024, Oregon’s Legislature took a significant step toward that goal by passing comprehensive campaign finance reform ensuing limits, donor transparency and more.

With reforms of this magnitude comes essential implementation work. Clear, workable rules are critical for:

- Candidates—especially those lower on the ballot who may not have campaign staff or legal counsel—to understand and comply with the law; and
- Organizations of all sizes that want to responsibly engage their members in the democratic process.

As communities and stakeholders have studied the 2024 legislation, several targeted updates have been identified to ensure the law functions as intended.

This letter is in support of **House Bill 4018 with the -6 amendments**, which makes necessary technical and timing adjustments to strengthen Oregon’s campaign finance reforms, including:

- **Protecting donor privacy.** HB 4018 with the -6 amendments includes technical fixes that limit the amount of publicly available personal information of donors. It was never the intent of the 2024 reforms to expose additional sensitive personal data in ways that could discourage participation or make individuals feel unsafe contributing their time, resources, or talents to civic life.
- **Allowing sufficient time for implementation.** The bill delays original source reporting and required IT updates to ensure they are done correctly. The Secretary of State’s Office has been clear: additional time is needed to test systems and implement these changes effectively and responsibly.

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Together, these updates will ensure a smoother, more successful transition to this much-needed modernization of Oregon's campaign finance system.

Oregon has long been described as the "wild west" of campaign finance—defined by unlimited contributions and limited transparency around the true sources of political spending. The 2024 reforms marked a turning point. HB 4018 helps ensure that this new chapter is implemented thoughtfully, with accountability, transparency, and public trust at its core.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

All the best,
Felicita Montebianco
Sr. Public Affairs Manager

