

Submitter:

Dan and Jan Blair

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4018

We are writing to express our strong opposition to HB 4018, which if passed would weaken and delay campaign finance reform. HB 4018 now includes a complex 84-page amendment that would double some of the campaign contribution limits, multiply others exponentially, and delay parts of the bill until 2031. We have not personally perused those 84 pages, but as long-time members of Common Cause Oregon we have received trusted information that convinces us HB 4018 is not acceptable. Oregonians deserve true campaign finance reform.

Dan served 20 years in the U.S. Navy; after retirement he earned a degree from Mt. Hood Community College and worked for two wholesale tree nurseries in Boring, Oregon. Jan's career included working in Portland as both an administrative assistant to the dean of a private college and as a legal secretary, and as a medical office manager in Gresham before retiring. Our concerns with HB 4018 are that middle-class citizens such as we are cannot ever donate amounts to candidates of our choice sufficient to counter the contributions of the wealthy and large corporations. That's a problem across this nation -- don't let it happen in Oregon. To reiterate, we Oregonians deserve true campaign finance reform.

HB 4018 should not be voted out of the committee. Thank you for giving our valid concerns, and those of tens of thousands of other Oregonians, your most serious and thoughtful consideration.