

Submitter: Lynda Martin-McCormick
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4018
To: Members of House Interim Committee on Rules
From: Lynda Martin-McCormick
Re: Testimony in opposition to HB 4018-6
Date: February 10, 2026

I urge the Committee to reject HB 4018-6. I am a voter, resident of Portland, and member of Indivisible Oregon. I serve on the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN). My work with Common Cause in its early days helped me to appreciate the mechanics of good government, especially how the technical details of campaign finance law can kill — or support — real reform. I am deeply concerned that 2024 campaign finance reform legislation is about to be gutted by HB 4018-6.

Campaign finance reform legislation (HB 4024) was passed with much fanfare during the 2024 short session, with the recognition that technical fixes were needed. During the 2025 legislative session a bill that would have significantly delayed implementation of HB 4024 was attempted and stopped only after a huge public outcry. I am here to add to the public outcry again.

In support of this amendment, the Committee was told that most of the changes were “silent form” changes intended merely to make the law easier to understand, that it addresses all of the needed technical fixes, and that nothing substantive has changed. The Committee was also told how inclusive the process of arriving at this amendment was. The process so far has not been inclusive and the bill anything but benign.

COIN and others have detailed lost opportunities for helpful input; I urge you to read their testimony carefully. They had no involvement in designing this 84-page gut-and-stuff amendment to a one-sentence bill directing the SoS to study elections was developed

The voters of Oregon have repeatedly voted by overwhelming majorities for real, effective campaign finance reform. Such reform doesn’t selectively favor one class of donors over another. Furthermore, such partisan provisions inevitably create loopholes that can be exploited by others. Campaign finance experts have seen this time and again in other States. I join the campaign finance reform community, including Honest Elections Oregon, League of Women Voters of Oregon, CommonCause, the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN), Campaign Legal Center, the Independent Party of Oregon, Oregon Progressive Party, and

Pacific Green Party, among others urging you to reject HB 4018-6 and send a message to the SoS to implement HB4024 on time.

Thank you for taking my testimony into consideration.

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