



The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

February 12, 2026

To: **Chair Representative Ben Bowman and members of the House Rules Committee**

Re: **HB 4018-6 – Campaign finance amendment to HB 4024 (2024) and ORS 260 – Oppose**

Based on the League of Women Voters national position on Money in Politics last studied and updated in 2016, the League of Women Voters of Oregon wants to express our strong opposition to this gut and stuff amendment.

This amendment is a complete betrayal of the deal made in 2024 for withdrawing Initiative Petition 9 in exchange for passage of HB 4024 and agreeing to work on technical fixes without policy changes. This deal was made after extensive 4-way negotiations between Honest Elections Oregon (with the Oregon League as a constituent organization), legislative leaders including Speaker Fahey, labor union lobbyists, and business lobbyists. This also followed a constitutional amendment passed by Oregon voters by 78% in 2020 that allowed campaign finance reform. It is clear that many, many voters will be unhappy if this amendment is adopted.

Honest Elections Oregon made many attempts to offer technical fixes for HB 4024 (2024) over the last two years. The League will not repeat the fixes that were offered, since those are already in the record.

We will also not attempt to critique this complex 85-page amendment with so many bad policy changes. Dan Meek will do that on behalf of the coalition. We will just say that the amendment allows large special interest organizations to largely continue dominating campaign finance in Oregon, contrary to voters' will and interests, while still limiting individual contributors. It also delays for three years and substantially erodes the financial disclosure requirements.

We urge your opposition for the HB 4018-6 amendment.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Klein".

Barbara Klein
Acting President LWVOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norman Turrill".

Norman Turrill
Governance Specialist