

Submitter: Andrew Kaza
On Behalf Of: Independent Party of Oregon
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4018

to Leader Fahey and the House Rules Committee:

Rules? What rules?

As others have noted, for which I will echo and amplify, my reaction to the behavior of leadership on the issue of campaign finance reform is now beyond contempt. As someone, along with dozens of others in the so-called "good government" groups in Oregon, who has worked to help bring meaningful and ENFORCEABLE campaign regulations to our fair state for two decades now, I shouldn't be surprised at this latest trick play by those of you in Salem.

It's now obvious that you will implement real campaign finance reform over any number of dead bodies.

I'm co-chair of the Independent Party of Oregon, with the state's largest registered party membership after the Ds and Rs. We are now 140,000+ members strong. And the number one issue for our membership? Guess what. It's campaign finance reform. Protecting the original intent and keeping the "teeth" in the original HB 4018 is supported by a whopping 90% of our members surveyed.

This issue, among all others, is far and away our party's priority in this short legislative session. So to say there will be political implications from passing these misguided amendments (collectively known as "-6") is probably a massive understatement. The IPO's nominating caucus is watching. And for those of you who have enjoyed broad bi-partisan support via a cross-nomination from our party in the past, you just might find yourself in for a rude surprise at the next election cycle.

We don't take betrayal lightly. And yes, we take campaign finance reform VERY seriously.

I urge you to reject this 84-page "slop bucket" of changes and get back to the process with the devoted and well-informed citizens that worked to create the original 2024 law - and is now standing by at the ready to further fix it. There can be no additional excuses, lest you want this issue to continue to weigh heavily - like a millstone around your neck(s) - into the next election and beyond.