

Submitter: Brian Jensvold

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4018

My name is Brian Jensvold. I am a long-time election integrity advocate within both the Oregon Democratic Party and the Multnomah County Democratic Party.

The -8 amendment to HB 4018 must be defeated.

This amendment would further delay implementation of campaign finance reform, despite Oregon voters overwhelmingly approving Measure 107 in 2020. For five years, Oregonians have been clear: they want meaningful limits on money in politics. Continued postponement directly undermines that mandate.

What makes this particularly troubling is that HB 4024 was the result of extensive, good-faith negotiations among good governance organizations, legislators, and the Governor's office in 2024. Stakeholders made substantial concessions to reach that agreement. A similar delay was proposed last year and quickly rejected. Now, in a short session crowded with other legislation, we are presented at the last minute with a 90+ page "gut-and-stuff" amendment replacing what had been a half-page bill.

Expanding a bill overnight into sweeping substantive changes strains any claim of transparency or deliberative process. The public and key stakeholders were not given meaningful opportunity to review or engage with these changes. That is not how democratic lawmaking should function—especially on an issue voters have clearly prioritized.

The proposed changes to contribution limits and implementation timelines were not negotiated in good faith with the constituencies that previously came to the table. Rushing major revisions through a short session erodes trust in both the process and the outcome.

Oregonians have been waiting since 2020 for campaign finance reform to take effect. Further delay signals that the Legislature is unwilling to honor the will of the voters.

I respectfully urge you to vote NO on the -8 amendment. Passing it would undermine public confidence and deepen the cynicism many voters already feel about our political system.