



TO: Chair Bowman, House Rules Committee
FR: Madison Walters, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555
RE: Support for HB 4018

Chair Bowman, Vice-Chair Elmer, Vice-Chair Pham, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony supporting HB 4018. My name is Madison Walters, and I am a political liaison and member of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555. As an organization, we engage in a robust democracy-building program with the aim of electing pro-labor candidates to public office and furthering policy that strengthens the rights of workers.

Our members want - and deserve - fair elections where the voices of everyday people are not drowned out by millionaires and billionaires making unlimited political contributions. Campaign finance limits can have the desired effect, but only if implemented carefully and enforced effectively.

The changes to our campaign finance law passed by the legislature in HB 4024 (2024) will have far-reaching impacts on the state's elections system. We are concerned about the unintended consequences of a rushed and incomplete rollout of HB 4024 (2024), particularly the implementation and management of new campaign contribution tracking software. We appreciate the technical fixes proposed by HB 4018, which provides a more realistic timeline for implementation.

We particularly want to call out and support the technical fix to the disclosure of personally identifiable information to protect the privacy of Oregonians. We have previously expressed our concern that such disclosures could have a chilling effect on voter participation, particularly in the current moment when political violence is on the rise. We are grateful to the Secretary of State and the legislature for addressing that concern in this bill. We hope that additional concerns will be addressed in the future, including the protection of union member information.

We believe at our core that an effective elections system is one that functions well and equitably serves all the people it represents. Campaign finance limits are an important step in democratizing our elections system, and we strongly believe that these changes cannot

be taken lightly. We commend the legislature for acknowledging this, and collaborating with the Secretary of State to come up with a plan that properly realizes the goals of HB 4024.

Thank you,

Madison Walters

Political Liaison

United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555



UNITED FOOD & COMMERCIAL WORKERS LOCAL 555

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