

To: House Rules Committee
From: Kate Titus, Common Cause Oregon
Re: HB 4108 -6, Campaign Finance Reform
Date: February 12, 2026

Common Cause

Common Cause is a nonpartisan organization that works for open, honest, accountable government. We are 1.5 million Americans – including roughly 30,000 Oregonians – working together to realize the unfinished promise of democracy.

The organization has a track record on this issue – including here in Oregon where it provided leadership for winning Portland's Open & Accountable Elections, amending our state constitution to clarify the state's authority to limit money in politics, and negotiating the very reforms passed two years ago that this bill purportedly aims to address.

Opposition to HB 4108, as Amended

We all know – and the public will increasingly learn – that the language for this bill was negotiated behind closed doors and only shared publicly at the last minute.

We know that it was negotiated with some of the biggest campaign contributors, while shutting out the good government groups who are the primary advocates for campaign finance reform.

And we know that this proposal would make substantive changes to reforms negotiated two years ago, something that legislative leadership promised it would not do.

I am sorry to see you even consider this path.

Two years ago, you took a historic step – passing HB 4024, legislation that voters had long called for, that will finally limit political campaign contributions in Oregon and empower Oregon voters to know who is spending to influence our votes. But now, as the time approaches for those long-awaited reforms to finally go into effect, it appears you may break your promise.

The bill before you today would substantively weaken and delay the new campaign finance reforms, creating loopholes for big money, reducing transparency, and undermining enforcement.

Before voting on this bill, I urge you to read the written testimony submitted by the Campaign Legal Center, considered among the top legal experts on campaign finance reform. They note that the -6 amendment – described as a technical fix to improve and strengthen HB 4024 – would instead weaken the reform, fail to fix existing problems, and introduce new ones.

Passing this bill will not be a good look for you. If this goes forward, it will soon be widely known that the legislature negotiated in bad faith, backtracked on campaign finance reforms, and delayed implementation of some reforms until after your own 2028 and 2030 elections.

I hope you will be the leaders to shut down this charade. I encourage you to be transparent, and to involve campaign finance reform advocates and experts in redrafting a true technical fix bill. We remain ready to work with you.