

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 6, 2024

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Oregon House Delivers Campaign Finance Reform

Historic legislation brings campaign finance limits to Oregon

SALEM, Ore. - In a historic moment, the Oregon House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly in favor of passing <u>HB 4024A</u> today to put limits on campaign finance contributions in Oregon. Acknowledging recent efforts and many years of work on campaign finance reform before them, **Leaders Julie Fahey (D-Eugene)** and **Jeff Helfrich (R-Hood River)** issued the following statement:

"Today, we made an important step to make reasonable changes in Oregon's campaign finance system. We arrived at this vote today after countless hours of good faith negotiations which were successful because of the years of work on this topic by Speaker Dan Rayfield and other legislators who worked on campaign finance long before us.

"We believe this bill meets Oregonians' need for reasonable contribution limits, transparency, and accountability, without simply shifting campaign spending into 'dark money' activities. It also protects the ability of community organizations and nonprofits to engage in the kind of grassroots political organization that has become a hallmark of Oregon's democracy.

"The legislation we passed today has agreement from good government groups, labor, business, community organizations, Democrats, and Republicans.

"We recognize that our nation has a patchwork of state-level campaign finance regulations. Given the reality of the Citizens United ruling, there is no perfect campaign finance system. This policy is one that came about in the spirit of compromise to do the right thing for Oregonians."

HB 4024A first passed out of the House Committee on Rules unanimously after adopting the -8 Amendment, which came as the result of hours of input and public process. The legislation now

heads to the Senate. When it passes the Senate and is signed into law, it will be the first time in decades that Oregon has had limits on campaign spending.

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