

HONEST ELECTIONS:

FIGHT POLITICAL CORRUPTION AND REQUIRE TRANSPARENCY I

SUMMARY

1. Campaign Contribution Limits

- a. Limits contributions to those shown in attached table.
 - (1) Candidate for statewide office may receive (per election period):
 - > from any individual: \$2,000
 - > from any multicandidate committee: \$2,000
 - > from any political party: \$50,000
 - > from any legislative caucus committee (one per party per chamber): \$5,000
 - (2) Candidate for other office may receive (per election period):
 - > from any individual: \$1,000
 - > from any multicandidate committee: \$1,000
 - > from any political party: \$10,000
 - > from any legislative caucus committee (one per party per chamber): \$1,000
 - (3) Multicandidate committee may receive: \$1,000 per calendar year from any individual, candidate committee, or multicandidate committee.
 - (4) Political party committees (taken together for each party) may receive: \$10,000 per calendar year from any individual, candidate committee, or multicandidate committee.
 - (5) Legislative caucus committee (2 per major party) may receive: \$1,000 per calendar year from any individual or local candidate committee; \$5,000 from any state-level candidate committee.
- b. Small Donor Committees (SDCs):
 - (1) SDC may accept contributions only from individuals and in amounts of \$250 or less per person per calendar year.
 - (2) SDC may contribute to any candidate per election period the greater of:

- (a) \$20,000 to statewide candidate or \$10,000 to other candidate per election cycle; or
 - (b) \$50 from each Oregon individual's contribution to the SDG.
- c. Membership Organizations (MO):
 - (1) MO must be certified tax-exempt by IRS, register as an Oregon nonprofit corporation, exist for previous 18 months, and have members who live, work, or go to school in Oregon.
 - (2) MO may contribute to any candidate per election period:
 - > \$20,000; and
 - > 12 person-months of "in-kind personal services," limited to certain activities, with at least half of that coordinating activities of unpaid volunteers.
- d. Candidate who loans money to the campaign may not repay to self more than \$50,000 if for statewide office or \$10,000 for other office.
- e. Local governments can adopt lower limits for elections of local public officials.

2. Disclosure Requirements ("paid for by")

Advertisements for or against a candidate or measure must prominently disclose:

- > the names of the entities that paid for it;
- > the largest 4 sources of funds for each entity;
- > the types of businesses from which the funders derived the funds; and
- > the amount, if any, of candidate personal funds spent on the campaign, if over \$20,000 for statewide office or \$5,000 for any other office.

3. Reporting Requirements (ORESTAR).

- > Independent spenders must report their contributions and expenditures.

4. Enforcement Provisions

- a. Violations to be penalized by civil fines of at least the amount of the unlawful contribution or expenditure, including amounts not property

disclosed or spent on ads that do not comply with the disclaimer requirements.

- b. Each successive knowing, willful, or reckless violation involving a \$5,000 or more by any person during a calendar year shall be penalized by imposition of a civil fine which is not less than the otherwise applicable minimum penalty multiplied by the number of such prior violations.
- c. Provisions to be enforced by Secretary of State and Attorney General, with limited judicial review available, if those public officers fail to enforce the law.
- d. Hearings on alleged violations are conducted by independent Oregon Office of Administrative Hearings, with appeals to courts.

5. Public Funding of Campaigns.

Provides system of public funding of campaigns for state office, including all statewide offices, all judges, and all district attorneys.

- a. Small donations are matched with public funds with maximum of \$8 million for Governor candidate, \$750,000 for candidate for other statewide office, \$600,000 for State Senator or State Representative, \$300,000 for Supreme Court Justice, \$150,000 for other judge elected statewide, and the lesser of \$250,000 or \$1 per district resident for district attorney or circuit court judge.
- b. Participating candidates are subject to lower limits on private contributions.
- c. Creates Oregon Elections Commission to administer the system.

6. Other Provisions.

- a. Removes campaign contribution loophole in Oregon's criminal bribery law, which currently allows using campaign contributions to obtain *quid pro quo* benefits from public officials.
- b. Limits accumulation of campaign funds left over after election.
- c. Employers prohibited from requiring employees or contractors to make contributions; penalty is \$20,000 per violation.
- d. The contribution limits become effective on January 1, 2023.
- e. The disclosure and disclaimer requirements become effective on June 1, 2023.