

## We Need Campaign Finance Reform in Portland

Measure 26-200 is needed to fight the corruption caused by unlimited political campaign contributions.

Oregon is one of only 5 states with no statewide limits on political contributions. Candidates and public officials have become unduly beholden to the special interests. Campaign spending on Oregon candidates has skyrocketed 10-fold (1,000%) since 1996, from \$4 million to nearly \$50 million.

The State Integrity Investigation of the Center for Public Integrity and Public Radio International in 2015 graded Oregon an overall "F" in systems to avoid government corruption. **Oregon ranked 2nd worst of the 50 states in control of "Political Financing," beating only Mississippi.**

But the Koch Brothers-funded "Institute for Free Speech" in 2018 ranked Oregon #1 in America for having the "best" system of campaign finance regulation -- no limits! **Big corporations and billionaires really like Oregon's system of no limits, because they can use their money to buy politicians.**

<b>National Study of Anti-Corruption (2015) Grades Oregon: F</b>	
<b>Public Access to Information</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Political Financing</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Executive Accountability</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Legislative Accountability</b>	<b>D-</b>
<b>Procurement</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Lobbying Disclosure</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Ethics Enforcement Agencies</b>	<b>F</b>
Center for Public Integrity Public Radio International	

THE OREGONIAN reported that candidates for the Oregon Legislature raise and spend more in their campaigns, per capita, than in any other state, except New Jersey.

- The average spent in 2014 by the top 10 Oregon Senate candidates = \$750,000 each.
- The average spent in 2016 by the top 10 Oregon House candidates = \$825,000 each.
- Some candidates spent over \$1 million, over \$80 per vote received.

In 1998 the candidates for Governor spent \$2.5 million. That rose to \$20 million in 2010 and could reach \$30 million this year.

As of early August, more than 60% of the funds raised by each of the Democratic and Republican campaigns for Governor came in donations of \$5,000 each or more.

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318 words

**THESE OREGON GROUPS AND OREGONIANS  
SUPPORT 'YES' ON MEASURE 26-200 FOR  
PORTLAND CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM**

**Political Parties**

Democratic Party of Multnomah County  
Oregon Progressive Party  
Independent Party of Oregon  
Pacific Green Party

**Local Affiliates of National Organizations**

League of Women Voters, Portland Chapter  
Jobs with Justice - Portland  
NAACP - Portland  
350 PDX (also Bill McKibben, founder of 350.org)

**Community Organizations**

Alliance for Democracy  
Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon  
(APANO)  
Association of Oregon Rail & Transit Advocates  
Bernie PDX  
Bus Project  
Democracy Spring  
First Unitarian Church, Economic Justice Action  
Health Care for All Oregon  
Honest Elections Oregon  
Humboldt Neighborhood Assn  
Linnton Neighborhood Assn  
Move to Amend PDX

Onward Oregon  
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Portland-Metro People's Coalition  
Portland Clean Air  
Portland Forward  
Portland Tenants United  
Represent U.S.  
Right to Survive  
Sightline  
Tax Fairness Oregon  
-Unite Oregon -  
Utility Reform Project  
Woodlawn Neighborhood Association

**Elected Officials**

Brad Avakian	Oregon Labor Commissioner
Chloe Eudaly	Portland City Commissioner
Sharon Meieran	Multnomah County Commission
Alissa Keny-Guyer	Oregon House of Representatives # 46
Michael Sonnleitner	Portland Community College Board

**2018 Candidates for Elected Office**

Jo Ann Hardesty	Portland City Council #3
Marc Koller	U.S. Representative, 3 <sup>rd</sup> District

**Individuals**

Barbara Dudley	James Ofsink
Bob Stacey	Jason Kafoury
Dan Meek	Jim Kelly
David Delk	Jodi Wiser
Emma Easley Darden	Liz Trojan
Greg Bourget	Mitch Greenlick
James Cook	Nick Caley
Jamie Partridge	Moses Ross
	Seth Woolley

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The **Democratic Party of Multnomah County** endorses and supports Portland Measure 26-200 and encourages a **YES** vote.

In early September, Knute Buehler received **\$1.5 million** from a single person, Phil Knight, former CEO of Nike. That was a striking and terrifying example of how a **single individual** with massive resources thinks they can buy-off the electorate and purchase Oregon's political landscape.

**In 44 other states this contribution to a candidate for state office would be illegal.**

That \$1,500,000 contribution was the biggest from an individual to a candidate in the history of Oregon. Chris Dudley, the Republican candidate for Governor in 2010, collected over \$2.5 million from the "Republican Governors Association," a private group that does not disclose its donors. **Oregon allows such contributions to remain cloaked in secrecy.**

As of early August, only 25% of the funds for Buehler's campaign came in donations of \$500 or less. **54% of Buehler funds came in donations of larger than \$5,000 each.** Even federal candidate donations are limited to \$2700 per individual donor.

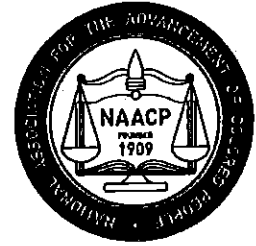
Michael Cohen, the personal lawyer for Donald Trump paid \$130,000 to porn star Stormy Daniels just before the 2016 election to prevent her from revealing her affair with Trump. Cohen pleaded guilty to making a campaign contribution larger than allowed by the federal limits. **But those limits do not apply to races for state or local office in Oregon.**

Tom Delay, the former Republican leader in the U.S. House of Representatives was convicted by a jury in 2011 of money laundering for channeling \$190,000 of corporate money into the campaigns of candidates for the Texas Legislature. **What he did is legal in Oregon.**

The Multnomah County Democratic Party endorses and supports a **YES** vote for Portland **Measure 26-200** to level the political playing field and to get big money out of politics.

[www.MultDems.org](http://www.MultDems.org)

**Lurelle Robbins, Chair, The Democratic Party of Multnomah County**



## ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

### Strengthen democracy and advance racial equity

With Measure 26-200 the City of Portland has an opportunity to strengthen our democracy and advance racial equity.

Portland NAACP has long sought to raise the voices of people of color, immigrant communities and Oregonians of different backgrounds. One of the biggest barriers to this advancement has been the role of money in local politics.

A lack of contribution limits has led to exponential increases in the cost of a campaign for elected office in Portland. This creates a significant racial disparity, placing a disproportionate amount of power in the hands of a few millionaires and large corporations. This undermines a basic democratic principle—one person, one vote.

The most successful Portland candidates often have wide networks of wealthy people financially supporting their campaigns.

This dynamic makes it very difficult for low-income and historically disenfranchised communities. When the voices of the marginalized are stifled it becomes a threat to the equality promised to all Americans in our political process. If you don't have that wide network of wealthy people supporting your campaign, it proves problematic to run an effective campaign.

Communities of color in Oregon experience higher rates of poverty. Not having access to those networks poses an almost insurmountable obstacle for a person of color to run a successful campaign for office.

By limiting campaign contributions, the cost in running for office decreases significantly. This will allow young people from different backgrounds, people of color, and people from low-income communities to participate in our democracy. Every community should be able to vote for a true representative in their government, one who has also shared their experiences.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. D. Mondaine Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

E. D. Mondaine' Jr.  
President  
NAACP, Portland Chapter 1120

With Measure 26-200, the City of Portland has an opportunity to strengthen our democratic process and advance equity.

APANO has long sought to raise the voices of people of color, immigrant communities, and Oregonians of different backgrounds. But one of the biggest structural barriers to this has been the role of money in politics.

The lack of contribution limits has led to exponential increases in the cost of a campaign for elected office in Oregon. This creates a significant racial disparity, placing a disproportionate amount of power in the hands of a handful of millionaires. When one or two millionaires can pump major donations into campaigns, they undermine our basic democratic principle: one person, one vote.

This dynamic makes it very difficult for low-income communities and historically disenfranchised communities to have their voices heard equally in our political process. If you need to have a wealthy network to be a candidate, people who don't have that network struggle to run an effective campaign. Because many communities of color in Oregon do not have access to those networks, and experience higher rates of poverty, it is hard for a person of color to run for office.

Oregon is a diverse state, and it needs to have more diversity in its elected positions. For instance, in all of Oregon today, there are only 5 elected officials at any level of government who are Asian American or Pacific Islander (AAPIs) -- in a diverse state with over 260,000 AAPIs. By limiting campaign contributions, we can help to bring down the costs of running for office. That will allow young people, people of color, people from both low-income and rural communities, and people of different backgrounds to participate in our democracy by serving as candidates. Every community should be able to vote for a true representative in their government, who understands their experiences because they have also shared those experiences.

- Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO)

## **Big Money Dominates Portland Elections**

The 2012 winner of Portland's mayorship spent over \$1.7 million. His two primary opponents spent \$1.4 million and \$965,000. The 2016 winner spent \$1 million in the primary alone.

Most of the money comes from big donors, in chunks as large as \$60,000 per donor. The major corporate donors are typically property developers, landlords, construction companies, financial moguls, timber companies, rail contractors, and companies wanting government to pay more of the \$1 billion+ tab for the Portland Harbor Superfund cleanup.

Portland has an affordable housing crisis. Rents are high. The largest campaign contributors to candidates for city office are usually owners and developers of real estate, who benefit from high rents. Go figure.

Of the \$1 million spent by Ted Wheeler's 2016 mayor campaign, 52% came from contributions of \$2,000 or more. Only 5% came from contributions of under \$200.

Of the \$1.7 million spent by Charlie Hales's 2012 mayor campaign, 44% came from contributions of over \$1,000 each. Only 7% came from contributions of \$100 or less.

In the current contest for Portland City Commissioner, as of early August 2018:

Of the \$476,000 raised by Loretta Smith's campaign, 64% came from contributions of \$2,000 or more. Only 3% came from contributions of under \$200. She has received 12 contributions over \$10,000 each.

Of the \$269,000 raised by Jo Ann Hardesty's campaign, only 17% came from contributions of \$2,000 or more, while over 36% came from contributions of \$200 or less. Please read her statement in this Voters' Pamphlet supporting Measure 26-200. Her campaign demonstrates that candidates for Portland office can raise sufficient funds from donations of \$500 or less (69% of her total).

Portland should Seattle by adopting limits on political campaign contributions, which are in place for 90% of local governments in the nation. Our proposed \$500 limits are the same as those adopted by voters in Seattle in 2015.

322 words

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## CANDIDATES DO NOT NEED HUGE CONTRIBUTIONS IN ORDER TO RUN EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGNS

### VOTE YES ON 26-200

Some opponents of campaign finance reform say that Measure 26-200's limits on political contributions would not allow candidates to run effective campaigns for public offices of the City of Portland.

Measure 26-200 limits candidates to receiving only contributions from individuals or PACs in the amount of \$500 each per election cycle.

**But similar limits have been in place for decades in 44 other states**, and candidates there are running effective campaigns. The difference is that those candidates need to contact more people who are not corporate executives or wealthy individuals. They have to contact more regular people, like us. That can be done, thanks to the internet.

Campaign contributions in Washington have been limited to \$600 per person per 2-year election cycle for a long time. Seattle last year reduced the limit to \$500 per person. Yet, politicians there raise funds and conduct effective campaigns there.

Many states limit contributions, even in statewide races, to \$600 or less per person per election cycle:

Alaska	\$ 500	Kansas	\$ 500
Colorado	\$ 200	Maine	\$ 375
Connecticut	\$ 250	Montana	\$ 170
Delaware	\$ 600	Wisconsin	\$ 500

Candidates for Portland office can certainly conduct effective campaigns, funded by contributions capped at \$500 per person and per PAC.

**The Bernie Sanders campaign raised \$231 million from 7 million donations (from 2.7 million donors), an average of \$86 per donor (\$33 per donation).** It is now very fast and easy to make political contributions on the internet.

Also, Measure 26-200 provides for Small Donor Committees, which is a PAC that limits incoming contributions to \$100 per year per individual. The Small Donor Committee can then spend all those funds to support or oppose candidates. So candidates can obtain significant financial support from grassroots organizations that receive only small individual contributions.

**We call that Grassroots Democracy.**



## EXPLANATION OF MEASURE 26-200

Measure 26-200 creates a new City Charter provision placing limitations on:

- (1) Contributions to political campaigns for candidates running for city elective offices.
- (2) Independent Expenditures in support or opposition to any Candidate for a city elective office.

Measure 26-200 requires that each Communication to voters about a City of Portland Candidate Election prominently disclose the five largest true original sources of its funding (in excess of \$500).

The measure:

- 1. Limits Contributions and Expenditures to support or oppose Candidates for public office in City of Portland elections:**
  - > Limits Candidate or Candidate Committee to receiving only these Contributions per Election Cycle:
    - > from any Individual: \$500
    - > from any Political Committee: \$500
    - > from any corporation: \$0
  - > Allows formation of Small Donor Committees, which may accept contributions only of \$100 or less per Individual person per year. Small Donor Committee can use these funds to support or oppose Candidates, if it complies with the \$100 per Individual per year limit on incoming contributions.
  - > Requires any entity that spends more than \$750 per Election Cycle on Independent Expenditures to register as a Political Committee; requires reporting of funding sources and expenditures on the state ORESTAR system.
  - > Limits Independent Expenditures in any City of Portland Candidate race to:
    - > \$5,000 per Individual
    - > \$10,000 per Political Committee, but only from contributions to the Political Committee by Individuals of \$500 or less per Individual per calendar year
- 2. Requires that each paid Communication to voters related to a City of Portland Candidate Election prominently disclose the five largest true original sources of Contributions and/or Independent**

**Expenditures in excess of \$500 each that funded the Communication.**

3. Violations are subject to a civil fine of not less than two and not more than twenty times the amount of the unlawful Contribution, Expenditure or Independent Expenditure.
5. Includes adjustments for inflation on January 1 of each odd-numbered year.

321 words

## OREGON DOES NOT REQUIRE EFFECTIVE DISCLOSURE OF THE SOURCES OF BIG MONEY

### "Independent Expenditures"

In Oregon it is easy to pay for political ads through a **501(c)(4) "dark money"** nonprofit corporation with a nice name. The corporation never has to identify where its money came from, making it impossible to identify the true source.

### Direct Campaign Contributions

Even if the ad is purchased by the candidate's PAC, Oregon **does not** require that the ad identify the PAC or any of its sources of money. If the ad identifies the PAC, it is usually "Friends of Mary Jones [candidate name]."

Yes, you can look up on ORESTAR the contributions to the candidate's PAC, but those often come from other PACs, which in turn are funded by yet other PACs. Unlike most states, **Oregon allows unlimited PAC-to-PAC transfers**, which can be used to hide the true sources of the money.

Requiring the voter to spend hours on Internet research to find out the funding sources is not at all the same as revealing them directly in the political ad itself.

## TAGLINE REQUIREMENTS IMPACT ELECTION AND AIR QUALITY OUTCOMES

Taglines on candidate ads in Richmond, California foiled the massive attempt by Chevron, Inc. to take over Richmond leadership in 2014.

Accidents (including huge explosions) at the Chevron refinery in Richmond released toxic gases. Richmond City Council pushed for toxic controls and sued Chevron for damages resulting from a major fire in 2012 that sent thousands of Richmond residents to hospitals. Chevron decided to take over the city government by running candidates for mayor and city council in 2014. Chevron spent over \$3 million promoting its 4 candidates (\$281 per voter), outspending the environmentalist candidates, including Green Party members, by a factor of 50.

But California law required that the ads identify their major funder: **Chevron, Inc.**

**All of Chevron's candidates lost overwhelmingly. Air quality won.**

See [http://pdxcleanair.org/richmond\\_article](http://pdxcleanair.org/richmond_article)

**GREENS & PORTLAND CLEAN AIR  
SUPPORT YES ON 26-200**

## MEASURE 26-200 REQUIRES THAT POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENTS DISCLOSE THEIR BIG FUNDERS

The **Pacific Green Party** and **Portland Clean Air** jointly support 26-200 because real campaign transparency works for environmental causes.

Portland Clean Air publishes pollution maps and educates neighbors so they can fight back against pollution, but political pressure from shadowy campaign funders made it ridiculously difficult to get records from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

See [http://pdxcleanair.org/oregonian\\_article](http://pdxcleanair.org/oregonian_article)

Voters should know who are paying for political ads in order to judge credibility of the messages and so stop electing politicians beholden to corporate polluters.

Measure 26-200 requires that every political ad in a Portland candidate race state, **in the ad itself, the 5 largest true, original sources of money** used to fund it.

Opponents of limits on campaign contributions often say that all the public needs is disclosure of the funders of the political advertisements. But such disclosure does not work well in Oregon.

Laws requiring that political advertisements identify their source are in place in 46 states. The Oregon Legislature repealed the law so requiring in 2001. **Here it is legal to do political ads and never identify their source or who paid for them.**

Federal law requires that ads on broadcast TV and radio at least identify their source, but even that can be the name of a nice-sounding committee or nonprofit corporation that tells you nothing about the real sources of the money.

The Corporate Reform Coalition (75 prominent organizations) in 2012 concluded that only 6 states have worse systems than Oregon for disclosing "independent expenditures" that pay for political ads. **Oregon earned an F**, while Washington got an A. Oregon has not improved since 2012.

Several states have adopted more stringent "tagline requirement" laws that mandate that political advertisements identify their true, original major sources of funding, including California, Washington, Connecticut and Maine.

Voters deserve to know who is providing the Big Bucks behind political ads.

**VOTE YES ON 26-200**

## VOTE YES ON 26-200 TO PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Portland residents have recently become aware that our urban environment is not the green and healthy place that many believed it to be. The air shed is filled with unhealthy levels of toxic metals, our rivers are polluted, our children's drinking water is contaminated with lead, and dangerous fossil fuel infrastructure sits in seismic liquefaction zones where it can leak or explode -- especially in the event of a large earthquake.

Lax environmental regulation is at the core of these problems.

One major factor is that our government at all levels is unduly influenced by polluters who make large campaign contributions to the politicians they believe will protect their interests.

Here's how it works:

(1) environmental and public health laws are weak because big polluters have an undue influence in the political process;

(2) regulators recognize this influence and are less aggressive in enforcing the already weak environmental rules; and

(3) the apparent conflicts of interest reduce public confidence in government, and people stop expecting the government to protect public health and the environment.

Elected officials come to rely on campaign contributions in order to stay in office and adjust their regulatory priorities as to not upset big contributors. This undue influence filters down to the bureaus, departments, and agencies who are charged with administering our environmental rules. This "regulatory capture" is often why environmental rules are weakened and underenforced.

Examples include the failure of government to:

- require significant clean-up of toxic materials in the Willamette River at Portland Harbor
- protect our air from cadmium, arsenic, chromium, & lead emissions from local industries.

We can take an important step toward creating a government willing to protect the environment and public health based on the best available science, instead of looking out for the profits of polluters.

Please vote YES for 26-200 to move Portland toward better environmental stewardship.

Nicholas Caleb  
Environmental Attorney

## **Why Campaign Finance Reform Matters for the Environment**

Clean air and water are among our highest priorities and must be protected when making development and economic policies. But the lack of limits on campaign contributions and effective disclosure of campaign funding sources mean translate into environmental harm.

More than 2/3 of Oregon's largest industrial polluters are operating without valid permits, which are often 3 decades out of date. Some industrial facilities have gone for decades without inspection by the state. In 2017 Oregon legislators defeated a proposal to regulate large-scale industrial polluters that would have addressed this problem.

The 2017 Legislature removed the authority of the state agency responsible for regulating the final cover and structural integrity of landfills--immediately before one of the state's largest regional landfills was scheduled to close .

A 2016 review by THE OREGONIAN of the state's handling of toxic air quality in Portland found that the agency was "timid, leaderless and consistently influenced by industry interests."

Oregon is the dumping ground for dirty diesel engines and trucks that are banned in California and Washington but are allowed to operate in Oregon. EPA reports that diesel emissions cause nearly 250 premature deaths in Oregon per year and \$3.5 billion in health care costs and lost productivity. Multnomah County air ranked in the worst 1% of counties nationwide for concentrations of diesel particulate, according to the EPA National Air Toxics Assessment (December 2015). The same study ranked Portland as the worst city nationwide for respiratory distress and Multnomah County in the worst 2% of U.S. Counties for cancer risk. The State of Washington has invested 20-fold more in diesel clean-up than Oregon since 2002.

Communities with low socio-economic scores and minority communities are the most likely locations for "toxic outliers"-- facilities that emit extraordinary amounts of harmful pollutants.

Campaign finance reform is critical for protecting the environment.

Independent Party of Oregon    [info@indparty.com](mailto:info@indparty.com)    503-437-2833

Alliance for Democracy urges **YES on 26-200 for limits on campaign contributions/expenditures and disclosure of true funders of city-level political campaigns.**

Twelve years ago Oregon voters approved limits on campaign contributions/expenditures and prominent disclosure of who funded political ads. The Secretary of State and Attorney General have refused to enforce that measure, effectively overturning the will of the people.

Thus, Oregon has had no limits, one of only six such states. As a result, we have among the most expensive political races in the nation. Our political leaders should not be decided by who has the most money to spend; yet, in the vast number of cases, that is exactly what happens.

Just in the past several months, we know of contributions being given to Portland City Commissioner candidate Loretta Smith from corporations and people with interests which could come before City Council\*. This is not unusual. While we don't know that these contributions (many of them \$5,000 or more each) will influence her decisions, we are left to wonder if decisions are made on the basis of merit or on the basis of who has made big contributions.

\*She has taken very large contributions from real estate developers; two individuals totaling \$70,000; soft drink distributors/manufacturers; and, indirectly, from Nike. Source: Orestar.

We should not have to wonder; we should be able to trust that merit is the deciding factor. Voters in Portland now have the opportunity to enact limits and disclosure requirements for city level offices. Measure 26-200 limits contributions to \$500 per individual per election cycle, limits the amounts of independent expenditures, and bans all corporate contributions and expenditures.

Further, it requires political advertisements disclose the real identity of the top 5 funders of the ads on the ads.

**We deserve HONEST ELECTIONS.**

**We want limits on campaign contributions/expenditures.**

**We want disclosure.**

**Vote YES on 26-200!**

### **Health Care for All-Oregon Action Supports 26-200**

Health Care for All-Oregon Action aims to pass a ballot measure to implement an equitable, affordable, comprehensive, high quality, publicly funded universal health care system serving everyone in Oregon.

HCAO Action supports Portland Measure 26-200 limiting campaign contributions for candidate elections in the city. We recognize that a big reason for lack of universal publicly funded healthcare up to now, which is supported by a majority in Oregon, is excessive money from corporations and wealthy individuals that candidates feel they need to win elections. The resultant influence is said by some in public debates to make the most effective and affordable approaches to health care "politically unrealistic."

Measure 26-200 is a small step to limit the influence of big money in politics and policy making. It will improve public accountability in the city. It can help build momentum for wider reform, by offering a good example for other counties and the state of Oregon to follow.

HCAO Action has adopted principles of Universality, Equity, Accountability, Transparency, Participation, and health care as a Public Good. Measure 26-200 helps make candidate elections more equitable, by limiting the effect of wealth on candidate elections. It has specific requirements that increase transparency. If passed the measure may increase participation by giving ordinary voters more voice in elections. Increased transparency and participation will make officials more accountable to the public as a whole, rather than to wealthy donors.

HCAO Action urges Portland voters to approve measure 26-200.



Big money dominates Portland elections. Contribution limits could help restore balance, allowing regular people to play a bigger role in determining who can run for public office, who can win, and what issues elected officials work on while in office.

In Portland's 2016 Mayoral race, just 400 big dollar donors together gave nearly half a million dollars to campaigns. Regular people contributing tens of dollars each, and candidates who rely on regular people to support their campaigns, can not compete with the flood of money from big donors. By limiting the amounts each big donor can give, contribution limits would restrict big donors from overshadowing regular people. Portland will soon be implementing Open and Accountable Elections Portland, to give people-powered campaigns a chance in Portland, but small-dollar candidates will still have a hard time competing against big donors without limits. Honest Elections Portland would provide those limits, evening the playing field.

The State Integrity Investigation of the Center for Public Integrity gave Oregon and "F" in systems to avoid government corruption, and ranks Oregon 49th out of 50 states in "Political Financing" (only Mississippi scored worse). Honest Elections Portland would be an important step towards improving the integrity of Portland's elections.

-Kristin Eberhard, Sightline Institute

Portland Forward urges you to vote YES on getting big money out of Portland politics.

We believe that **political power should arise from the value of ideas, not the size of contributors' checkbooks**. We also know that a system with unlimited contributions leads to much more expensive and exclusive elections. Other larger, wealthier cities in the US spend much less per capita than Portland on their local races. For example, Seattle typically spends less than half as much in their Mayoral races.

Measure 26-200 will limit large contributions, empower small donors, and inform voters of the largest donors to each candidate.

This measure includes best practices from around the country and will allow politics to be accessible to everyone, not just the wealthy. This measure would go a long way towards creating a city where people from every corner would be able to participate in determining the direction of Portland's future.

Portland Forward is a multigenerational group dedicated to achieving big-picture progressive changes for the Portland region. In 2015, a group of local leaders recognized that the scale of problems facing our community required a coordinated, long-term strategic effort.

Our top priorities are:

- Solving our housing and transportation woes
- Helping develop a clean energy economy
- Creating a public bank to maximize our public investments and keep our funds out of institutions such as Wells Fargo that undermine our community values
- Making our local democracy more fair, equitable, and effective for everyone

What stands in the way of these, and many other, important policies for our City is the outsized role of big money. The corrupting influence of wealthy special interests creates an atmosphere where the average Portlander does not have a meaningful voice in City Hall.

**Please join Portland Forward in voting YES on 26-200 and building a democracy that works for all Portlanders.**

For more information on our organization and how to get involved, visit:  
<https://www.portlandforward.org>

## **Fed up with Big Money Politics? Vote Yes on Measure 26-200**

There is WAY too much money from too few people in politics today. Millionaires and billionaires shouldn't have a larger voice than anyone else when it comes to Oregon elections.

Measure 26-200 sets tough, fair limits on the amount of money anyone can contribute to a local candidate, PAC, or political party. Let's shut down the loopholes that big donors are using to secretly funnel huge amounts of money to influence public policy in Oregon, and let's force every campaign to disclose its major donors right in their ads. Don't let big money drown out your voice. Vote YES on Measure 26-200.

## **Ban SUPERPACS and Dark Money groups by voting YES on Measure 26-200**

Under current law, wealthy interests can give unlimited amounts of money to so-called "independent" campaigns or secretive "non-profit" organizations that don't even have to disclose their donors. Those groups then fund attack ads and mailers that clog your mailbox, television and computer screen with slander and mudslinging.

Let's make local politics honest by making SuperPACS and other campaign organizations play by the same rules that individuals have to play by, with limited contributions promptly disclosed. Measure 26-200 would do that and require every political ad to identify its top 5 sources of funding.

## **Make Portland Officials Accountable to Ordinary Citizens**

Even our local elected officials in Portland raise most of their campaign funds from a small group of wealthy interests. After the election, those officials inevitably listen more to the big donors who funded their campaigns than they do to the rest of us.

We can change that by requiring all candidates to raise their campaign funds from small donations that come from a broad base of their constituents. That will ensure that everyone's voice is heard during campaigns. More importantly, it will make politicians accountable to their constituents, not big money interests.

**Vote YES on Measure 26-184.**

honest-elections.com info@honest-elections.com 503-427-8771 @honestelect

*Utility Reform Project  
info@utilityreform.org*

## HOW PORTLAND MEASURE 26-200 IS DIFFERENT FROM PORTLAND'S PROGRAM FOR "PUBLIC FUNDING" OF CAMPAIGNS

They are very different, but they could work well together in the future.

### Portland Measure 26-200

Measure 26-200 limits campaign contributions and independent expenditures and requires that political ads identify their top 5 funders. The limits are:

- ✓ Contributions to candidates from individuals and political action committees: \$500 per election cycle (4 years)
- ✓ Contributions and "Independent Expenditures" by corporations: Zero
- ✓ "Independent Expenditures" by individuals: \$5,000 per election cycle (4 years)

It does not provide public funding to candidates. It applies to races for Portland city offices, including Mayor, City Commissioner, and City Auditor.

Measure 26-200 is a ballot measure to be adopted, or rejected, by a vote of the people of Portland.

### City of Portland Public Funding of Campaigns Program

This is a program adopted by the Portland City Council in 2016, for implementation in 2020.

The Portland proposal would not limit campaign contributions or independent expenditures. It would provide public funding for candidates for Portland City elected offices (Mayor, City Council and Auditor) by paying matching funds for every contribution of \$250 or less received by each participating candidate. It includes restrictions on which candidates qualify and requires each to agree to a cap on overall campaign spending:

Mayor	\$950,000
City Commissioner	\$550,000
City Auditor	\$550,000

It is expected to cost about \$2 million per 2-year election cycle.

### Learning for the Future

Both approaches to campaign finance reform have advantages over the present

Oregon system of unlimited contributions, unlimited expenditures, and poor disclosure of the sources of campaign money.

Measure 26-200 would decrease the cost of the public funding system by reducing the amounts of added funding provided when non-participating candidates raise large amounts in private donations. It would also require that advertising paid for by large private donations prominently disclose its top five funders.

If Measure 26-200 passes, we can learn from the implementation of both systems.

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325 words