

## Fighting Big Money, Empowering People: An Oregon Agenda

*As Oregonians, we share a strong tradition of independent government run of, by and for the people. We expect our government to serve us based on the consent of the governed, with voters, not money, driving decisions. We will not stand by and allow the corrosive influence of big money in politics and the corrupting force of partisan politics to go unchecked, drowning out the voice of the people and undermining confidence in government. We expect leadership that puts voters back at the center of our democracy.*

Oregon lawmakers should commit to these five principles of democracy:

1. Everyone participates;
2. Everyone's voice is heard;
3. Everyone knows who is trying to influence our views and our representatives;
4. Everyone plays by fair, common-sense rules;
5. Everyone is held accountable, with enforceable penalties to deter bad behavior.

***If elected, will you endorse, prioritize and work aggressively to:***

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
<b>LIMIT THE INFLUENCE OF BIG MONEY</b> in Oregon politics, first by supporting a state constitutional amendment to authorize limits, then by setting an upper ceiling on how much a candidate can receive from a single contributor.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>MAKE EVERYONE'S CONTRIBUTION MATTER</b> by establishing a public financing system in Oregon that amplifies small campaign contributions while reducing the reliance on large contributions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>ENSURE FULL TRANSPARENCY</b> , supporting removal of state constitutional barriers to transparency, then strengthening laws that shine a light on secretive political giving, by requiring "paid for by" statements on campaign ads and full disclosure of pass-through donations so that voters can "follow the money."	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>PROTECT EVERYONE'S RIGHT TO VOTE</b> , in a modern, efficient, accurate and convenient state voting system that encourages participation, and discourages voting disparities based on race, age, geography or other demographics. Specifically, this includes expanding on New Motor Voter and opposing policies that make voting or voter registration more difficult.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>PREVENT GERRYMANDERING</b> , that skews the relative voting strength of whole communities for partisan or incumbency advantage by putting Oregon's redistricting process in the hands of a nonpartisan citizen's commission and making the process fully transparent.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>FIX THE FEDERAL LEVEL</b> , calling for a federal constitutional amendment to restore the ability of Congress and the states to set reasonable limits on the raising and spending of money to influence elections, including distinguishing between corporations and real persons.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## COMMENTS

Q#1: Oregon's Constitution is LONG (!) Do you really want to add to it? And what is this "upper ceiling". If a person who wins the lottery wants to use their own money, would that be prohibited? I noticed Gov. Brown received a large check recently from a union...does that count as "Big Money"? Finally, what *is* "Big Money"? Is in an amount or an entity? The phrase is used a lot, but how are YOU defining it?

Tentative answer is "No", because: 1) I am leery about changing our constitution and 2) I don't want anyone telling me what I can or cannot do with my money. Do you?

Q#2: Sounds a bit like socialism. Everyone is the same. How would "small campaign contributions" be "amplified"? Where would the money come from??

Answer is "No" because it is much too vague.

Q#3: I don't like things done, "in secret". Everyone who wants to know, should be able to "Follow the money".

Answer is "Yes", but I won't be locked into the nuts and bolts of how this will be accomplished. Much depends on the ratio of Rep to Dem to Independents in the House.

Q#4: Everyone who is legally allowed to vote in Oregon should be able to do so if that is their wish. When someone DOES vote, we the people have a RIGHT to know that the vote cast is a legal one. Does it discourage adults from drinking to ask for proof of age? A simple look at alcohol sales makes the answer self-evident. Patriots who love their country will not feel encumbered for having to show a card or some other document to prove they are legal to vote. Motor Voter is a waste of tax payer money forced upon us by the democrats. If there are a SMALL handful of people in my district who somehow can't figure out how to register to vote—but have no problem renewing their driver's license or filling out paperwork for any other government requirement, send them to my office when I am elected and I will happily guide them through the process.

Answer: "No"

Q#5: Democrats Gerrymandered Sen. Jackie Winters out of my district. I abhor the practice. But who will this Non-partisan commission consist of? How will they be chosen?

Answer: "Yes", but another way to prevent this is to simply stop another election cycle of one party rule

Q#6: I have no desire to call for a federal constitutional amendment. It takes time effort and money. We in Oregon have enough to deal with right now. If you want it fixed, support a president who will nominate Constitutional Judges to the Supreme Court instead of those who wish to legislate from the bench.

Signed: 

Date: 4/25/2016

Printed Name: Doug Rodgers

State/District: OR House Dist. 21