

COIN Legislative Session Worksheet for 2023

Bill Number: SB162

Brief Description of Bill: Establishes Small Donor Elections Program to enable candidates for offices of state Representative and state Senator to receive 6-to-1 match on small dollar contributions. Limits matching funds.

Name of Point Person who completed this form: Bill Vollmer

Email address if you are willing to be contacted with questions about this bill:
cyclinguybill@gmail.com

Last Updated: Feb 23, 2003

1. Research topic – please highlight which category best fits your bill:

• Climate Energy Environment	• Education
• Housing/Houselessness	• Transportation
• Campaign Finance Reform	• Economics
• Immigration/Social Justice	• Crime/Criminal Justice
• Healthcare/Gun Safety	• Other:

2. The bill's Legislative champions – sponsors, co-sponsors:

Chief sponsor is SoS Shemia Fagan

3. The bill's legislative opponents:

Unclear at this point, though some opposition is expected.

4. What advocacy groups are supporting this bill and why are they supporting it? Provide contact information if available.

Unclear at this point.

5. What groups are opposing this bill and why are they opposing it?

COIN and the “good government” groups (including Honest Elections Oregon, Common Cause, Oregon League of Women Voters, OSPIRG, Alliance for Democracy, Pacific Green Party, PDX Forward and others) opposed a similar version of this bill (HB2690-12) that was proposed during

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the 2021 legislative session. The primary concern is that it allows way too much money to be contributed from membership organizations.

6. What is the likelihood that the bill will pass?

Although there is broad support for some form of public financing of campaigns via a small donor matching fund, we think it unlikely that the bill will pass in its current form. However to assure that we need to let legislators know we oppose this version and why.

7. What is your recommendation regarding whether COIN should take a position on this bill?

You may want to consider the following criteria but are not required to do so:

- a. Does COIN or other progressive groups across the state care strongly about this issue?
- b. Does this bill protect or expand the rights of marginalized populations?
- c. Does this bill help change the rules and structures of the democratic system to make it work better?
- d. Is this an issue area that is entirely controlled by the states or an issue over which states have a great deal of power?
- e. Is this fight winnable?
- f. Would constituent power add value and make a difference?
- g. Other considerations?

We recommend that COIN **oppose** this bill in its current form.

8. List the relevant dates concerning the bill(s). (scheduled committee hearings, votes, lobby days, other scheduled advocacy, phone banks, post card parties, etc.)

No meetings currently scheduled.

9. What activities does the advocacy group wish to mobilize COIN members or other activists to engage in? (phone calling, post cards, emails, LTEs, lobby days, other?)

Contact your legislators and the SoS's office to let them know why we think it is a bad bill. Provide written testimony should this come up for a public hearing.

10. Are there any media contacts?

None at present

11. Is there any other important information about your bill?

None at present