A few wealthy individuals and corporations have bought up our private sector and now they're buying up the government. Campaign finance reform is the most important issue facing us today, because it impacts all the others.

— **Sen. Bernie Sanders**

26-184 limits big money in Multnomah County races

With big money interests dominating politics nationally, strong campaign finance laws are critical to protect the integrity of local elections — our elections.

Multnomah County is no stranger to flow of big money. In 2014, the race for County Commission Chair set a record, with the winning candidate spending $466,000. The future does not bode well, as Oregon is one of 6 states to place no limits on campaign contributions. Last year, the Center for Public Integrity ranked Oregon 49th worst in the nation in controlling "political financing," beating only Mississippi.

Big money in politics weakens our democratic institutions, undermines confidence in government and excludes the vast majority of citizens from seeking public office.

Yes on 26-184 keeps Multnomah County <u>of, by and for the people</u> by . . .

1. Limiting the influence of big money in Multnomah County

- ✓ Limits contributions to candidates from individuals and political action committees to $500.
- ✓ Limits the amount of money that can be spent independently — separate from money given directly to candidates — supporting or opposing a candidate.
- ✓ Keeps corporate money out of candidate races.

2. Empowering ordinary voters and candidates not beholden to big money

- ✓ Makes candidates focus less on needs of big money donors spend more time listening to voters.
- ✓ Enables more candidates — including women, young people and people of color — to run viable campaigns against candidates with ties to deep-pocketed interests.

3. Increasing transparency and accountability

- ✓ Requires that political advertisements disclose the real identity of the top 5 funders of the ad.
- ✓ Reduces the appearance of corruption and the opportunity for outright bribery.

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