



# Democracy Reform Oregon

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Accessible politics, accountable government

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**REVISION – Our October 30 release contained errors due to faulty data collection. This release corrects those errors and updates the numbers through 9 a.m. today. DRO regrets the error.**

## Measure Campaigns Near \$22 Million Mark; Tobacco Money Accounts for Half; Timber Interests Contribute 61 Percent of Total to No on 49 Effort

Two measures approach \$22 million in campaign cash, with contributions from tobacco companies comprising half that total. Timber interests dominate the effort to block Measure 49.

As of Wednesday morning, campaigners for and against measures 49 and 50 had raised \$21,970,100 or about \$4 million more than the \$17,961,616 total raised by campaigns for and against 10 measures on the 2006 ballot. Timber-related interests make up at least \$1,371,000, or 61 percent of the \$2,259,393 total that committees urging a “no” vote on Measure 49 have raised. (See Chart 1.)

Three PACs are actively opposing measure 49, Fix Measure 49, Oregonians in Action PAC and Stop Taking Our Property. George Advertising, a business owned by State Senator Larry George, is one of the campaign’s top 10 donors, providing \$74,684 in in-kind contributions.

No on 49 campaigners have raised \$184,153, or 8 percent of its total, from contributors giving \$100 or less. Assuming an average contribution of \$50, the “no” side has 3683 donors in that category. Yes on 49 has out fundraised the “no” side about 2 to 1.

**Chart 1: Top 10 Contributors to No on 49 Campaign Committees (Fix Measure 49, Oregonians in Action PAC and Stop Taking Our Property)**

Contributor	Amount	Percentage
Stimson Lumber	\$375,000	16.6%
Seneca Jones Timber Co.	\$332,000	14.7%
A-Dec Dental Equipment	\$213,500	9.4%
Columbia Helicopters/Wes Lematta and Swanson Group Inc.	\$163,500 each	7.2% each
Hire Calling, Inc. (Dick Wendt)	\$100,000	4.4%
Freres Lumber Co., Inc.	\$75,000	3.3%
George Advertising, Inc.	\$74,684	3.3%
Cascade Timber Consulting, Inc	\$60,000	2.7%
Rosboro	\$50,000	2.2%
Top 10 Contributors Subtotal	\$1,607,184	71.1%
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions \$100 and under	\$184,153	8.2%
Remaining Contributions	\$468,055	20.7%
Total No on 49 Contributions	\$2,259,393	100.0%

Figures include cash and in-kind contributions and loans reported to the Elections Division.

Environmental groups, led by the Nature Conservancy of Oregon and including 1000 Friends of Oregon, Environment Oregon, Inc., Audobon Society of Portland, Oregon League of Conservation Voters, 13 Enviros PAC, National Wildlife Action, Inc., Oregon Sierra Club, Oregon Environmental Council, Bicycle Transportation Alliance, The Wild Salmon Center, Mary’s Peak Sierra Club, Environmental Strategies, LLC, Friends of the Columbia Gorge and Kalmiopsis Audobon Society have given at least 33 percent of the money the Yes on 49 Committee has raised. (See Chart 2.)

On its website, the Conservancy describes itself as, “the leading conservation organization working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people” and has made the campaign a top priority in Oregon. Eric Lemelson, an Oregon vineyard owner and Oregon League of Conservation Voter board member, has contributed more than \$1 million. If Lemelson’s contribution is added to those of environmental organizations, the total from environmental interests tops 55 percent.

The Yes on 49 committee has also raised \$255,203, or 5.4 percent, of its total from donors giving \$100 or less. Assuming an average contribution of \$50, the campaign has 5104 donors in this category.

**Chart 2: Top 10 Contributors to Yes on 49 Committee**

<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
The Nature Conservancy in Oregon	\$1,212,583	25.8%
Eric Lemelson	\$1,025,000	21.8%
Environment Oregon, Inc.	\$135,510	2.9%
Lemelson, Dorothy (Trust Account)	\$126,000	2.7%
John D. Gray	\$125,000	2.9%
1000 Friends of Oregon	\$106,445	2.3%
Philip Knight and Edmund Hayes, Jr.	\$100,000 each	2.3% each
Paul Brainerd	\$75,000	1.6%
William Swindells	\$50,500	1.1%
Top 10 Contributors Subtotal	\$3,056,038	65.1%
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions \$100 and under	\$255,203	5.4%
Remaining Contributions	\$1,381,461	29.4%
<b>Total Yes on 49 Contributions</b>	<b>\$4,692,703</b>	<b>100%</b>

Figures include cash and in-kind contributions and loans reported to the Elections Division.

Measure 49, asks voters to approve a land-use law to address concerns about Measure 37. Measure 37, which passed in 2004, requires local and state governments to compensate landowners for any loss in value caused by land-use regulations, or to waive those regulations.

Measure 49, according to its supporters, restores fairness to the land-use system by allowing landowners to build a limited number of houses on their land while stopping unfettered commercial development. Detractors say that the referral guts Measure 37, taking away important property rights granted by the measure and ignoring the will of the voters.

The other legislative referral Oregonians face this fall is Measure 50, a state constitutional amendment that would raise cigarette taxes by \$0.85 per pack and dedicate the funding for children’s health care and other health programs while also encouraging more smokers to quit because of the increase in cost for cigarettes. Proponents argue that this is a sound way to provide basic health care for thousands of uninsured children across the state. Opponents argue that it is wrong to place a tax increase in the state constitution and that it is wrong to tax smokers to pay for children’s health insurance.

Two tobacco companies are responsible for almost all of the \$11.7 million two active “no” on 50 political committees have raised. Philip Morris USA Inc. and parent company Altria Corporate Services have given \$6,933,470, or 59.1 percent of the total, while Reynolds American contributed \$4,792,781, or 40.8 percent. The “no” effort garnered \$152 in miscellaneous contributions of \$100 or less from three contributors (assuming an average gift of \$50 each). (See Chart 3.) The “no” side is out-fundraising the “yes” side more than 3 to 1, and has set a new fundraising record for Oregon measure campaigns, surpassing the old record by \$4.5 million in inflation-adjusted dollars.

**Chart 3: Top 10 Contributors to No on 50 campaign committees (Oregonians against the Blank Check and Stop the Measure 50 Tax Hike)**

Contributor	Amount	Percentage
Philip Morris USA Inc.	\$6,771,811	57.7%
Reynolds American	\$4,792,781	40.8%
Altria Corporate Services, Inc.	\$161,660	1.4%
Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company	\$7872	<1%
Rich & Rhine Distributors; Northern Sales Company, Inc. and Capitol Distributing, Inc.	\$1000 each	<1% each
Taxpayers Association of Oregon PAC, Oregon Neighborhood Store Association Political Action Committee and Plaid Pantries, Inc.	\$500 each	<1% each
Top 10 Contributors Subtotal	\$10,463,343	~100.0%
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions \$100 and under	\$152	<1%
Remaining Contributions	\$100	<1%
Total No on 50 Contributions	\$11,738,875	100%

Figures include cash and in-kind contributions and loans reported to the Elections Division.

Top contributors in support of measure 50 include prominent medical groups, such as Providence Health System; American Cancer Society and Regence BlueCross and number of others, which have given at least \$1,989,609, or 62 percent of the campaign’s fundraising. (See Chart 4.)

Supporters giving \$100 or less to the “yes” campaign comprise \$15,306, or less than 1 percent of the total raised. Assuming an average contribution of \$50 from these contributors, the campaign has about 306 donors in this group.

**Chart 4: Top 10 Contributors to Yes on Healthy Kids Plan (Yes on 50) campaign committee**

Contributor	Amount	Percentage
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network	\$550,000	16.8%
Providence Health System; American Cancer Society, Great West Division and Opportunity PAC II	\$200,000 each	6.1% each
Regence BlueCross	\$165,773	5.1%
Healthy Communities Coalition*	\$153,000	4.7%
Oregon Education Association	\$150,000	4.6%
SEIU Local 503	\$142,406	4.3%
American Heart Association	\$110,000	3.4%
AFSCME Council 75, Philip Knight, Oregon State Council of Service Employees and Win McCormack	\$100,000 each	3.0% each
Top 10 Contributors Subtotal	\$2,271,179	69.3%
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions \$100 and under	\$15,306	<1%
Remaining Contributions	\$992,645	30.3%
Total Yes on 50 Contributions	\$3,279,130	100.0%

\* The Healthy Communities Coalition, another “yes on 50” political committee, raised \$153,000 from Oregon Association of Hospitals & Health Systems (\$93,000), American Hospital Association (\$50,000) and St. Charles Medical Center (\$10,000), all of which it gave to Yes on Healthy Kids Plan. Figures include cash and in-kind contributions and loans reported to the Elections Division.

“This level of campaign cash will buy a lot of speech. To make an informed decision, Oregonians need to know who is paying to ask for their help to change the law or preserve the status quo,” said Sarah Wetherson, research and outreach associate with Democracy Reform Oregon.

*Democracy Reform Oregon (DRO) is a non-partisan, not-for-profit group working to increase accountability and opportunities for participation in politics and governmental decision-making. DRO has been working on democracy reform issues since 1999 and was formerly the Money in Politics Research Action Project.*

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