

Money in Politics Research Action Project

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Final Analysis of Contributions in Ballot Measure 30 Election

Thirteen political action committees advocated for Ballot Measure 30 and seven urged a "no" vote. The measure, which failed by a 59 to 41 percent margin, overturns the revenue bill that drew bipartisan support and ended the 2003 legislative session.

The final disclosure report indicates even contribution levels with the "yes" side raising \$1,034,742 while Measure 30 opponents raised \$1,032,168. The "yes" and "no" players and their total contributions are summarized below in Chart 1.

Yes PACs	Contributions*	No PACs	Contributions*
Yes on 30-Our Oregon	\$744,010	Oregon Citizens for a Sound Economy	\$447,370
AFT OR COPE PAC	\$74,630	Taxpayer Defense Fund	\$224,205
Oregon Business Association PAC	\$64,697	Oregon Family Council PAC	\$206,300
Nurses United PAC	\$61,719	Taxpayer Association of Oregon BM PAC	\$82,048
OPEU PAC	\$22,259	Libertarian Party of Oregon	\$25,600
School Employees Exercising Democracy	\$17,792	Christian Victory PAC	\$23,941
Lane Yes on 30	\$13,943	Parents Education Association	\$22,704
BUS PAC	\$11,530		
Yes on 30 for Southern Oregon	\$6,539		
Citizens Alliance for Responsible Education (CARE)	\$6,350		
Benton Yes on 30	\$3,277		
Medford Education Association LOPAC	\$2,992		
Southern Coast Yes on 30	\$2,649		
Communities for Oregonians with Disabilities PAC	\$2,250		
Florence Area Democratic Club	\$105		
Totals	\$1,034,742		\$1,032,168

Chart 1 – The Players in the February 3rd Ballot Measure 30 Election

*Includes cash, in-kind contributions and loans for 1st and 2nd pre- and post-election reporting periods for the February 3, 2004 contest. These reports were due on 12/29/03, 1/22/04 and 3/4/04. (Does not include data reported by TDF during signature gathering—for that information, please refer to our full report, Transparency Defeated, at www.oregonfollowthemoney.org.) Data compiled by MiPRAP based on Elections Division reports. Data could change due to auditing and/or amendments.

Itemized summaries of top donors to each of the "yes" and "no" PACs are provided below in Charts 2 and 3. It should be noted that the primary expenditures by several "yes" PACs are contributions to the Yes on 30-Our Oregon committee. These ally PACs are Nurses United, the PAC affiliated with the Oregon Business Association, the Oregon BUS PAC, and the ballot measure PAC of OPEU (Oregon Public Employees Union). Including the contributions from these ally groups in our analysis represents some double counting. Similar double counting is present on the "no" side since the Taxpayer Defense Fund received 43 percent of its money from two ally PACs, Oregon Citizens for a Sound Economy and Taxpayer Association of Oregon Ballot Measure PAC.

Conservative anti-tax groups dominated the "no" fundraising. (See chart 3.) The major "no" PAC was Oregon Citizens for a Sound Economy. Their largest donor, contributing just shy of 25% of the total contributions to OCSE, is that group's Washington, DC based parent organization, Citizens for a Sound Economy. Citizens for a Sound Economy and its affiliate, OCSE, were also major contributors to the Taxpayer Defense Fund.

Five Oregon businesses made major contributions ranging from \$27,550 to \$85,100, representing 72 percent of fundraising to Oregon Citizens for a Sound Economy. Other business groups such as Associated Oregon Industries remained neutral on Ballot Measure 30.

Other "no on 30" groups had significant levels of grassroots fundraising. The Oregon Family Council PAC (OFC) raised \$206,300 in opposition to Measure 30, 98 percent of which came in contributions of \$50 or less. OFC raised about twice what it spent and has an ending cash balance of \$125,780. As a miscellaneous PAC, OFC can also be active in initiative campaigns.

OFC exemplifies the intersection between anti-tax activism and the religious right. The group, which distributes its Christian Voters' Guide through churches each election, has close ties to current attempts to ban marriage equality for same-sex couples in Oregon. OFC's chairperson, Tim Nashif, has been reported by the Oregonian and the Salem Statesman-Journal as working on several initiatives amending the constitution to eliminate marriage rights for gays and lesbians. Nashif is also active with the Defense of Marriage Coalition, which was formed to oppose Multnomah County's marriage equality policy. A chief petitioner on one anti-marriage equality initiative, Dennis Tuuri, is also a director of the OFC PAC.

Public employee unions dominated the "yes" side, but support also came from the PAC of the Oregon Business Association. Small regional "yes" on 30 groups were also active, and there was support from a small PACs representing Oregonians with disabilities and progressive activists around the state. (See chart 2.)

Almost two-thirds (64 percent or \$744,010) of the contributions to the major proponent PAC, Yes on 30-Our Oregon, came from the four public employees unions: Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 503, Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA), the Oregon Education Association (OEA), and Oregon AFSCME Council 75. These labor unions represent approximately 127,000 members who provide services to Oregonians and are directly affected by changes in state budgets. Union members have decided to dedicate a portion of their dues to issue funds. (Fair share members - those whose union dues cover only collective bargaining expenses - are exempted from these assessments.) Boards composed of and elected by union members make decisions about allocation of these issue funds.

On the "no" side, the major three ongoing ally PACs are also member based. Oregon Citizens for a Sound Economy has 12,000 statewide members. The Oregon Family Council reports that 1,700 churches and 13,000 individuals in the state distribute its Voters' Guide. The Taxpayer Association of Oregon lists as a goal to recruit "6,000 taxpayers to help inspire "citizen-based" lobbying in Oregon.

Chart 2: Yes PACs and their top 10 contributors Top 10 Donors* (in some cases all donors are listed)	Yes on 30 PACs	\$1,034,742
Oregon Education Association: \$157,531		
Service Employees International Union Local 503: \$135,748		
Oregon School Employees Association; Oregon AFSCME		
Council 75: \$100,500 each		
 American Association of Retired Persons: \$76,292 	Yes on 30: Our Oregon	\$744,010
 Oregon Business Association: \$35,147 	Tes on 50. Our Oregon	\$744,010
 Oregonians for Health Security: \$24,467 		
 Nurses United PAC; Oregon Public Employees Union PAC: \$20,500 each 		
• AFT-Oregon COPE PAC: \$15,000		
Local 5017, AFT, AFL-CIO: \$18,0000		
AFT-Oregon Solidarity Account: \$10,000		
Local 111, AFT, AFL-CIO: \$6,672		
Miscellaneous Gifts of \$50 or less: \$5,873		
AFT-Partners in Political Education: \$5,700	American Federation of	\$74,630
Local 2277, AFT, AFL-CIO: \$5,071	Teachers OR COPE PAC	\$74,030
Local 3922, AFT, AFL-CIO: \$4,743		
Local 4671, AFT, AFL-CIO: \$4,253		
• Local 3544, AFT, AFL-CIO: \$3,226		
Local 2417, AFT, AFL-CIO: \$3,120		
Northwest Natural: \$10,500		
Nike, Inc & Affiliates; Portland General Electric: \$8,000		
each		
Standard Insurance Company: \$7,500		
American Association of Retired People: \$6,000		
James O Kelly/Rejuvenation.Hardware: \$4,500	Oregon Business Association	\$64,697
Columbia Sportswear Company: \$4000		
Stoel Rives LLP: \$2,500		
Gard & Gerber: \$2,200		
Regence BlueCross Blue Shield; Kelly Development		
Corporation: \$2000 each		
Miscellaneous Gifts of \$50 or less: \$48,881	Nurses United	\$61,719
Oregon Nurses Association: \$12,838	Nuises Ollited	\$01,715
Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$22,226		
Steven Elliano; Michael Frazier; Mary Reese; Gavin Sublett:	OPEU PAC	\$22,259
\$8 each		
Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$17,392	School Employees Exercising	
Michael Redhead; Michael Funk; Stephanie Holmes; Dick	Democracy	\$17,792
Bartlett: \$100 each	Democracy	
Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$7,999		
Lane Yes on 28: \$2,644		
PeaceHealth Hospital: \$2,500		
League of Women Voters of Lane County: \$300	Lane Yes on 30	\$13,943
Lachman Stewardship Account: \$200		
John Van Vandingham; Harlequin Beads and Jewelry;		
Kathryn Daniel: \$100 each		
Yes on 30: For Our Oregon: \$7,500 (in kind contribution)		
Jeff S. Merrick: \$550		
Joe Blanton; Gavin W. White; Brian D. Collins: \$500	BUS PAC	\$11,530
Bryn Hazell: \$200		, ,
11 donors at \$100 each and 15 donors at less than \$100 each		

Top 10 Donors* (in some cases all donors are listed)	Yes on 30 PACs	\$1,034,742
Medford Education Association: \$2030		
 Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$1493 League of Women Voters; Jackson County Democratic Central Committee: \$1000 each Alan DeBoer: \$250 Karen Hyneman-Starchvick: \$167 Estelle Voeller; J. Warren Straus; John MacDiarmid; Faye Marie Hutchings; Richard Hendrickson: \$100 each 	Yes on 30 for Southern Oregon	\$6,539
 Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$5399 Sunderland; Gary Peterson; Janice Morgan; Kevin T Keeley; Jennifer Heiss; Newell Cleaver; Douglas Nelson: \$100 each Campbell, David: \$80 Taylor, Michael: \$24 Gael Berhow: \$20 	Citizens Alliance for Responsible Education	\$6,350
 Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$1755 Kids! PAC: \$363 AFSCME: \$300 Clifford Trow; Frank Morse: \$200 each BH Wilkens; Peggy Lynch; Paul Andrew Karplus; John Anderson: \$100 each Berg, Helen: \$57 	Benton Yes on 30	\$3,277
 Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$2,580 Ashland Education Association: \$128 Phoenix-Talent Ed Association: \$98 Toree Wilkering; District 6 Education Association: \$64 Joel N Wallace: \$32 Gail Stone: \$20 Pam Lucas: \$6 	Medford Education Association LOPAC	\$2,992
 Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$1229 Yes on 30: For Our Oregon: \$500 Susan Anderson: \$210 James Howard: \$150 Carl Wilson; Phil Waber; Steve Swisher; Kenny Kent; Gene Carlson: \$100 each Mitchell, Charles: \$60 	Southern Coast Yes on 30	\$2,649
Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$2,250	Communities for Oregonians with Disabilities	\$2,250
William Fleenor: \$95Gladys VanWinkle: \$10	Florence Area Democratic Club	\$105

*Donors are listed in order of largest to smallest contribution; ties are itemized up to 11 donors; otherwise, they are aggregated. In several cases, there were fewer than 10 identifiable donors to a PAC.

Chart 3: No PACs and their top 10 contributors

Top 10 Donors* (in some cases all donors are listed)	No on 30 PACs	\$1,032,168
 Citizens for a Sound Economy (D.C.): \$105,836 Columbia Helicopters, Inc./Lematta, Wes (owner): \$85,100 Adec, Inc: \$80,100 Seneca Sawmill Co.: \$75,100 Jeld-Wen, Inc.: \$55,100 Freres Lumber Co., Inc.: \$27,550 Oregon Grocery Association PAC: \$7500 Robert S. Bobosky: \$5000 Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$2261 Butler, Committee to Elect Tom: \$1000 	Oregon Citizens for a Sound Economy	\$447,370

Top 10 Donors* (in some cases all donors are listed)	No on 30 PACs	\$1,032,168
Oregon Citizens for a Sound Economy PAC \$92,575		
Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$24,755		
Citizens for a Sound Economy: \$21,971		
Goli Ameri for Congress: \$18,791		
Taxpayers Association of Oregon Ballot Measure PAC: \$3,591		+ ·
Jim Zupancic for Congress: \$3,590	Taxpayer Defense Fund	\$224,205
• Friends of Tootie Smith: \$3,296		
Oregon Family Council PAC: \$2,500		
Glenn W Pelikan; Adams & Company; Taxpayer Association of		
Oregon; Friends of Linda Flores; Close Friends (Betsy): \$1000		
each		
 Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$201,240 		
• Gunter, Aurel: \$400		
Alton Oas; Russell Wilson; Dale Hylton: \$200 each	Oregon Family Council PAC	\$206,300
Robert Bender: \$110		
Plus 37 donations of \$100 each and four under \$100		
 Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$54,283 		
• Woodworth, Jay: \$7580		\$82,048
Integrated Data Concepts: \$2000	Taxpayer Association of	
Oregon Rental Owners PAC; Douglas McIver: \$1000 each	Oregon BM PAC	
• John Lekas; Peter Brix: \$500 each	Olegoli Divi I AC	
• Dean Warren: \$400		
• Plus eight donors at \$250 each and 132 at less than \$250 each		
Ambrose, Anthony: \$4250		
Casterline, James and Marlene Collins: \$3500		
Paul Farago: \$3150	Libertarian Party of Oregon	\$25,600
Libertarian National Committee: \$2504		
Stars Caberet and Steakhouse: \$2000		
Thomas B Cox: \$1500	Elocitarian raity of Olegon	
Paul Phillips, PTS Inc.: \$750		
• Dan Fitzgerald: \$540		
Donald McDaniel: \$500		
Nicole Vanderheyden		
Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$20,115		
Christian Coalition of Oregon C-4 Fund: \$1626		
Barton, Richard: \$500	Christian Vistory DAC	\$22.041
• Tami L Pemberton; Karen K Morgan; Helen Byers: \$200	Christian Victory PAC	\$23,941
Gerri L Hickey: \$120		
• Plus nine donors at \$100 each and two at less than \$100 each		
Miscellaneous Contributions of \$50 or less: \$21,824		
Howard Walter Jr.; Marian Klimer; Dorothy Karman; Richard	Parents Education	
Johnston; Janis Jacobson; Ranell Curl; Ray Birch; Ronald		\$22,704
Johaneson: \$100 each	Association	,
• Lapeere, Stephen: \$80		

*Donors are listed in order of largest to smallest contribution; ties are itemized up to 11 donors; otherwise, they are aggregated. In several cases, there were fewer than 10 identifiable donors to a PAC.