

4-time Loser

Tuesday, September 30, 2008

The Hillsboro Argus

Measure 64, a ballot measure sponsored by the man who makes a living by pushing the pen of poorly written measures (Bill Sizemore), unfairly targets working folks in Oregon - like teachers, nurses and firefighters - by limiting their ability to make voluntary contributions to organizations of their choice and does nothing to address the influence of corporations and special interests in politics.

The measure is so broadly written that it poses serious threats to funding for Oregon's charities.

Sizemore put the same measure on the ballot in 1998 and twice in 2000. So Oregon voters have said NO three times. In this case, let's make it four strikes and out.

If approved, public employees would also lose the right to use payroll deductions to support many nonprofit organizations of their choice. Uh, that should be the right of every public employee. Public employees have the freedom to say yes or no to donating to their unions' advocacy work. Measure 64 would take away that freedom, a freedom that all other Oregon employees have.

The measure would likely end up in the courts, which would be a costly legal battle - and guess who pays the bill? The taxpayers.

Opponents of M-64? Well, among the nearly 70 organizations, there's

United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley

Oregon State Fire Fighters Council

Oregon Parent Teacher Association

Advocacy Coalition of Seniors and People with Disabilities

Community Health Charities of Oregon

Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens

National Association of Letter Carriers

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

League of Women Voters of Oregon

Oregon AFL-CIO

Coalition for a Livable Future

Oregon Alliance for Retired Americans

Community Providers Association of Oregon

Tax Fairness Oregon

Oregon Consumer League

Northwest Workers' Justice Project

Community Action Partnership of Oregon

Oregon Natural Resources Council ACTION

Oregon Health Action Campaign

Basic Rights Oregon

Oregon Education Association

Oregon Council of Police Associations

Oregon Fair Trade Campaign

Parkinson's Resources of Oregon

Oregon Nurses Association

Adelante Mujeres

Oregon State Police Officers' Association

Oregon Food Bank

Muscular Dystrophy Association

Oregon Health Care Association

Oregon Humane Society

Save Oregon Seniors