

# Measure 64 would bar public support

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Measure 64 would deprive many nonprofit organizations of financial support from public employees through workplace giving programs. It would even ban public employees from using payroll deduction to donate to their own unions.

Last year, United Way campaigns supported hundreds of efficient, community-based programs assisting people with disabilities, children needing health care and seniors in poverty. Public employees, including firefighters, nurses and teachers, are the heart of those efforts.

Many of the groups that are funded by United Way, like Oregon Food Bank and Oregon Humane Society, conduct public advocacy to achieve their important missions. They would lose significant funding.

People who are assisted by community organizations funded generously by United Way would lose access to valuable services. Taxpayers would even lose the right to donate to carefully screened nonprofits through Oregon's Charitable Checkoff program.

If Measure 64 passes, organizations who engage in public advocacy would even be barred from accepting contributions from anyone at an event in a public building. The PTA, which supports or opposes education ballot measures, would not be allowed anymore to hold a bake sale in a school gym.

To preserve the ability of Oregonians to support nonprofit organizations without government interference, vote no on Measure 64.

— *Brian DeLashmutt, Salem*