

JOINT CANDIDATE STATEMENT ON DARK MONEY AND MONEY IN POLITICS

The influx of dark money and outside spending in our primary race is an affront to our democratic values. These shadowy groups, often backed by undisclosed donors, are trying to buy influence and shape the outcome of this election without any transparency or accountability. This is not the kind of politics the people of District 3 want or deserve, nor are accustomed to, given Congressman Earl Blumenauer's high level of integrity.

My fellow candidates and I are standing united against this corrosive influence. Our democracy should not be for sale. Every voter has the right to know who is funding these attack ads and manipulative campaigns.

We need comprehensive campaign finance reform that prioritizes transparency and levels the playing field. We must:

- **Ban Dark Money:** All political groups influencing elections should disclose their donors in real time, so voters have a clear understanding of who is funding the messaging they see.
- **End Super PACs:** Outside groups like super PACs wield far too much power. We should limit their influence and hold them to stricter standards.
- **Public Campaign Financing:** Empower candidates who refuse corporate money by expanding public financing options to amplify the voices of everyday Americans.

Our campaigns are powered by the people, not by big corporations or special interests. We encourage every voter to research all of the candidates in this race. Meaning, maintain a healthy dose of skepticism, and question any power structures or candidates implying that there are only three viable options.

You have an opportunity to vote for the changes you'd like to see in Oregon's 3rd Congressional District.

Let's send a clear message that our democracy isn't for sale and elect a representative who will fight for transparency, accountability, and integrity in politics.

***-Michael Jonas, Ricky Barajas, Rachel Lydia Rand, Nolan Bylenga
Democratic Candidates for Oregon's 3rd Congressional District***

