

We would like to provide you with some information on the Oregon Political Tax Credit, because it may help you to make a decision on whether you would like to contribute to the Hood River County Democratic Central Committee.

The Oregon Political Tax Credit is a credit, that for most people, will benefit them as a direct credit on their Oregon Income Tax return. The credit is \$50 for a single filer and \$100 for a joint filer. In order to claim the credit for 2015, the organization to which you are making the contribution needs to receive the contribution prior to year end.

Following are the circumstances in which you would **NOT** receive a tax benefit for your contribution to us:

- You have already contributed to us or other organizations that qualify for the credit up to the maximum amount that you can claim for 2015 (\$50 single/\$100 joint)
- Your net Oregon income tax, this is your Oregon income tax less all other credits (for instance the exemption credit, credits for taxes paid to another state, retirement income credit, etc.) is zero or less than your allowable political contribution credit total. For instance, your Oregon income tax, before credits, for 2015 is \$450. You are filing a joint return and you and your spouse gave \$100 in political contributions for the year. Aside from the political credit, the only other credit that applies to your Oregon return is the exemption credit of \$191 per person. You and your spouse do not have any other dependents. Therefore, your net Oregon income tax, before taking into account the political credit, would be \$68 ($\$450 - \$191 - \191). Therefore, you would only receive a tax benefit for \$68 of your \$100 of political contributions, the remaining \$32 would not provide a tax benefit, but would still assist causes in which you believe. Please keep in mind that payments (withholding, estimates and extension payments) are input on your return after the computation of Net Oregon Income Tax. So, your payments do not affect your Net Oregon Income Tax.
- Your income is above the limit. You may not claim the Oregon Political Contribution Credit if your federal adjusted gross income for 2015 exceeds \$200,000 on a jointly filed return, or \$100,000 on all other returns.

If none of the three circumstances detailed above applies to you, then we urge you to consider making a contribution to the HRCDC (Hood River County Democratic Central Committee), because it will not cost you anything. You will get the money back when you file your 2015 Oregon income tax return in 2016. Additionally, if you have already made a contribution to us, but have not met your limit yet on political contributions for 2015, please consider making an additional contribution if you believe that you will receive the tax benefit.