

END CITIZENS UNITED PAC

DEMOCRATS FIGHTING FOR REFORM



2015 CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

12 Things Voters Deserve To Know

WWW.ENDCITIZENSUNITED.ORG

ABOUT END CITIZENS UNITED PAC

Established March 1st, 2015, End Citizens United is a Political Action Committee funded by grassroots donors. We are dedicated to countering the disastrous effects of *Citizens United* and reforming our campaign finance system. **Already, more than 500,000 supporters have joined our movement to fight the unprecedented rise of money polluting our democracy.**

Learn more about End Citizens United PAC at www.endcitizensunited.org.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Since the *Citizens United* decision became law, American elections have been inundated by spending, particularly from unregulated "dark" money. End Citizens United, a grassroots effort to reform our campaign finance system, will use this questionnaire and past actions on campaign finance issues to guide our process for selecting candidates to endorse.

There are many avenues to campaign finance reform. We encourage you to use the space provided to explain your answers or ask questions if you so choose. We are, however, unequivocal in our opposition to the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision and the opportunities for corruption that it created. We will not stand with any candidate who supports the decision as written.

Kindly return your completed questionnaire by June 23rd by sending an electronic copy to Jessica Adair at jessica@endcitizensunited.org. Your answers to this questionnaire as well as any endorsements made by End Citizens United PAC will be released to the public.

STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

I, Ted Deutch a candidate for office of U.S. Representative
in Florida certify that the answers in this questionnaire
represent my own views.



SIGNATURE

August 1 2015

DATE

STAFF NAME, PHONE, EMAIL:

1

Do you oppose the Supreme Court's decision in *Citizens United*?

YES NO

OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

This devastating Supreme Court decision was issued in the midst of my first campaign for Congress in 2010. It was at that time I publicly pledged to voters that if elected I would do everything in my power to restore the legitimacy of our campaign finance laws by passing a constitutional amendment.

2

Would you support a Constitutional Amendment that undoes *Citizens United* and grants Congress and the states the power to regulate campaign finance?

YES NO

OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

I am the author and lead sponsor of the Udall-Deutch Democracy for All Amendment in the House of Representatives and currently enjoy the support of more than 130 of my House colleagues. This proposed amendment to the Constitution would restore the right of the American people to democratically pass laws that limit the corrupting influence of money in our elections - and to have those laws distinguish between natural persons, corporations, and other private entities.

This consensus amendment was arrived at after many years of collaboration with outside groups, including Common Cause, People for the American Way, and Public Citizen.

Please indicate if you've co-sponsored or support any of the following campaign finance reform bills:

- GOVERNMENT BY THE PEOPLE ACT
- DISCLOSE ACT
- KEEPING OUR CAMPAIGNS HONEST (K.O.C.H) ACT
- FAIR ELECTIONS NOW ACT
- DEMOCRACY FOR ALL AMENDMENT

LIST ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION HERE:

REQUIRE FULL DISCLOSURE

Do you support legislation requiring dark money entities, such as 501(c)(4) groups to disclose their donors and spending when they engage in any political activity that mentions a candidate for federal office and/or is intended to influence a federal election?

- YES NO

OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

Yes, and I believe the IRS could be doing more within its current authority to police sham social welfare organizations that have been formed for the sole purpose of funneling anonymous money to Super PACs.

Would you support legislation requiring dark money groups to publicly disclose their top ten donors if they spend money on voter contact?

YES NO

OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

As of July 1st, 2014 the FCC has required that TV stations post their public file (which details political spending) online. Currently this database isn't searchable and doesn't extend to cable providers. Will you support legislation requiring a searchable database and extending coverage to include cable TV spending?

YES NO

OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

I am also the sponsor of the Campaign Sunlight Act, which would mandate that the FEC create an online database of every campaign ad aired in an election cycle and require the maker of the ad to attach documentation of the claims and charges made.

STOP COORDINATION

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Currently a campaign staffer can quit the campaign and work for a SuperPAC supporting the candidate that employed the staffer after just a 120 day cooling off period. Would you support a cycle long cooling off period, preventing that staffer from working for a SuperPAC or 501(C)4 supporting his or her former employer until the next campaign cycle?

YES NO

OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

8

Currently the FEC holds that coordination only flows one way. This means that while a campaign is forbidden from sharing its plans, methods, and strategies with a SuperPAC, the SuperPAC can share its plans, methods, and strategies with the campaign. Do you support legislation to end this loophole?

YES NO

OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

We also know that campaigns are sharing information and resources with Super PACs by publicly releasing memos about their strategies and even making high quality video content available online for Super PACs and other third party groups to exploit.

REDUCE PAY TO PLAY

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29 states currently ban lobbyists from donating during legislative sessions.¹ Do you support legislation to extend this ban to Congress?

YES NO

OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

10

A 2012 study found that "the more companies give in campaign contributions, the more they get in contracts, on average."² In fact, the study found that \$200,000 in donations leads to an average addition of 107 government contracts. Would you support legislation that prohibits the executives, lobbyist, and company PAC from donating to federal candidates if the company has or is seeking federal contracts?

YES NO

OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

Please share any additional ways you support meaningful campaign finance reform.

EXPLANATION:

I believe that short of drastic change to the Supreme Court and a dramatic reversal of the Citizens United v. FEC ruling, our only hope at restoring integrity to our campaign finance system is a grassroots driven movement that advances an amendment to the Constitution in the states and builds pressure on Congress to get on board. Amending the Constitution is a heavy lift, but there is value to the movement in itself if it leads to meaningful change at the local, state, and federal levels.

I also think we need to do a better job of translating why the issue of money in politics should matter to people across the political spectrum. Whether you want to combat giveaways to the dirty energy industry or reign in Pentagon boondoggles, the ability of well-moneyed special interests to drown out public opinion is toxic to our democratic process.

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1. "Limits on Campaign Contributions During the Legislative Session," NCSL, 12/6/2011
 2. "Campaign contributions help companies get more federal contracts, study finds," Drutman, Sunlight Foundation, 6/21/2012