

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 1,000,000 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 sending an electronic copy to Jessica Adair at jessica@endcitizensunited.org, or a hard copy to End Citizens United PAC, PO Box 66005, Washington, DC, 20035. 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, James Langevin a candidate for office of U.S. Representative
in Rhode Island-02 certify that the answers in this questionnaire
represent my own views.

James Langevin

SIGNATURE

11/1/2015

DATE

STAFF NAME, PHONE, EMAIL:

1

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

YES NO

OPTIONAL EXPLANATION:

To further enhance oversight of corporate spending in elections, I am a cosponsor of H.J. Res. 23, which proposes a Constitutional amendment clarifying that corporations are not entities entitled to the personal rights enshrined in the Constitution. Further, in order to remedy the High Court's overarching opinion that allowed unprecedented amounts of money to flow into the political system, I cosponsored a Constitutional Amendment that would grant Congress and the states the power to regulate campaign contributions in federal and state elections, respectively.

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 a cosponsor of H.J. Res. 23, which proposes a Constitutional amendment clarifying that corporations are not entities entitled to the personal rights enshrined in the Constitution

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 (113th Congress, hasn't been reintroduced yet)
- DEMOCRACY FOR ALL AMENDMENT (H.J.Res. 22)

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:

I am proud to be a cosponsor of the DISCLOSE Act, which would require timely disclosure by Super PACs that spend money on campaign advertisements and would require lobbyists to disclose their expenditures to these groups. It would also force corporations to disclose campaign expenditures to their shareholders and would obligate Super PACs to disclose their top five donors in each ad.

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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:

6

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:

STOP COORDINATION

7

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:

REDUCE PAY TO PLAY

9

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:

Currently the Congressional calendar is short enough, with members in session only 113 days in 2014. Instead of incentivizing members to work less and raise money more, I have cosponsored legislation (Fair Elections Now Act) which would create a voluntary small donor matching funds system for congressional elections. To qualify, congressional candidates would have to raise at least \$50,000 from more than 1500 contributors. No individual would be able to donate more than \$100. Candidates who met these criteria would receive a primary and general election grant in addition to 4-to-1 matching funds for small donations.

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:

ADDITIONAL REFORMS

11

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

EXPLANATION:

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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