

# | END CITIZENS UNITED

## 2016 Champions of Democracy Candidates

ECU announces focus races for 2016 cycle

**CHAMPIONS  
OF DEMOCRACY**  
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End Citizens United, a **grassroots funded** political action committee, is dedicated to countering the disastrous effects of *Citizens United* and reforming our campaign finance system. We are dedicated to returning the power in our Democracy to every day Americans. We're a **traditional PAC**, adhering to contribution limits and full reporting requirements. Funded entirely by small dollar donations since our inception in March 2015, we've **raised almost \$20 million** from **260,000 Americans** giving an **average contribution of \$13**.

## **This cycle, ECU has:**

- Endorsed more than 100 candidates committed to getting Big Money out of politics and overturning *Citizens United*
  - We've supported those candidates by donating \$1 million to candidates; raising more than half a million for candidates; and we will invest about \$15 million in talking to voters to help our endorsed candidates win close races
- Conducted nationwide research and polling on money in politics issues
- Built a grassroots army of more than 1.5 million members who are committed to fighting the special interests that are polluting our system

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## Champions of Democracy

These candidates are top priorities for ECU because they have fought for and are advocating for meaningful reform to our campaign finance system, including the reversal of the Supreme Court's disastrous *Citizens United* decision, which opened the door to a flood of unlimited and undisclosed spending in elections.

End Citizens United is featuring these competitive races to help flip seats and make sure that we have the lawmakers needed to pass reform. We will connect our members with these top races to make sure that they have the resources they need to win - because we must take our Democracy back from the billionaires and special interests controlling it.

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**Hillary Clinton**

**President**



- Hillary has pledged to push for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* within her first 30 days in office.
- She'll appoint judges and Justices who will defend our democracy, not corporate special interests.
- She will call on Congress to pass laws to improve transparency of political spending and will sign an executive order mandating disclosure for federal contractors.

*"We can't have secret, unaccountable money poisoning our politics. So I'll appoint Supreme Court justices who will overturn Citizens United and even propose a constitutional amendment to do the same."*

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Catherine Cortez Masto  
NV-Sen



- As Attorney General, Catherine fought for Nevadans and stood up to corporate special interests. She supports a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United*.
- *"I support cracking down on any quid pro quo between those seeking the government's business and elected officials."*

- Russ was a lead sponsor of the landmark McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform law in 2003, which cleaned up "soft money" in our politics until the Supreme Court reopened the door.
- *"Citizens United did a grave disservice to our democracy and made sweeping and naive assumptions."*

Russ Feingold  
WI-Sen



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Maggie Hassan  
NH-Sen



- As a State Senator and as Governor, Maggie pushed for vigorous disclosure laws to keep New Hampshire elections clean.
- *"Send special interests a clear message that they cannot buy our elections."*

- As a state legislator, Jason helped pass a bill making it illegal to use political action committees as pass-throughs for cash. As Secretary of State, he pushed for caps on political donations and lobbyist gifts.
- *"If we strengthen our campaign finance laws, we'll get much better policy outcomes."*

Jason Kander  
MO-Sen



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Katie McGinty  
PA-Sen



- Katie supports complete donor disclosure as well as a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United*.
- *"I will be a vocal advocate for legislation that takes dark money out of politics and protects the integrity of our elections."*

Deborah Ross  
NC-Sen



- Deborah has proposed a broad ethics reform plan that would improve transparency in our elections and eliminate taxpayer subsidies for lobbyists.
- *"The First Amendment was written for individual rights, not corporate rights."*

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Ruben Kihuen

NV-04



- In the state Senate, Ruben supported legislation to boost campaign finance laws and disclosure standards.
- *"Allowing corporations unprecedented and unlimited influence in our election process hurts hard-working Americans."*

- Stephanie supports a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and a ban on donations by federal contractors.
- *"Dark money is ruining our political process and driving Americans' confidence in their government to an all-time low."*

Stephanie Murphy

FL-07





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Steve Santarsiero  
PA-08



- In the state House, Steve introduced a bill calling for the overturn of *Citizens United*.
- *"It's time to get tough and stop special interests from using campaign money to buy favor."*

- In the House, Brad co-sponsored the "Democracy for All" constitutional amendment that would overturn *Citizens United*.
- *"I'm wholly committed to addressing the corrupting influence of Citizens United."*

Brad Schneider  
IL-10



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Zephyr Teachout  
NY-19



- Zephyr, a trailblazer on reforming our campaign finance system and one of the most outspoken leaders in the country, was cited in Supreme Court Justice Stevens' dissent to the *Citizens United* decision.
- *"I have been fighting against Citizens United since before it existed."*

- On the Cedar Rapids City Council, Monica spearheaded a resolution calling for the overturn of *Citizens United*.
- *"When we start fixing campaign finance laws, we will start seeing a more productive and responsive Congress."*

Monica Vernon  
IA-01

