

# END CITIZENS UNITED

*2018 House Questionnaire*

[WWW.ENDCITIZENSUNITED.ORG](http://WWW.ENDCITIZENSUNITED.ORG)

## ABOUT END CITIZENS UNITED PAC

End Citizens United PAC (ECU) is dedicated to ending the tidal wave of unlimited and undisclosed money that has reshaped our politics and damaged our democracy.

ECU is a community of more than 3 million Americans dedicated to reforming our nation's broken campaign finance system and ending *Citizens United*. Our supporters are active and engaged in the political process as a progressive grassroots community dedicated to electing campaign finance reform champions.

Our strength comes from the power of many individuals standing together to call for change. We're proud to be supported by more than 300,000 donors across America who helped create a groundbreaking model that proved there's a way for the grassroots to compete with corporate special interests and billionaires.

## ABOUT THIS SURVEY

ECU will use this questionnaire and past votes, statements and actions on campaign finance issues to guide our process for selecting candidates to endorse.

ECU takes a full and comprehensive approach to rectifying the severe consequences the *Citizens United* decision has had on our elections. There are many avenues to fixing our broken campaign finance system: Enacting a constitutional amendment to overturn the *Citizens United* decision, confirming federal judges and Supreme Court Justices who believe political donations do not equate to political free speech, and supporting legislation that will bring full disclosure of and limits to the money flowing into our elections.

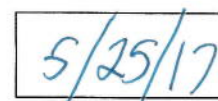
Kindly return your completed questionnaire by sending an electronic copy to Jordan Wood at [Jordan@endcitizensunited.org](mailto:Jordan@endcitizensunited.org). Your answers to this questionnaire as well as any endorsements made by End Citizens United PAC will be released to the public.

### STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

I, BRENDAN BOYLE a candidate for office of U.S. CONGRESS  
in \_\_\_\_\_ certify that the answers in this questionnaire represent  
my own views.



SIGNATURE



DATE

ECU

## CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Do you support or oppose the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision, which allowed corporations to spend unlimited amounts of money on elections?

SUPPORT  OPPOSE

2. Do you support the Democracy for All Amendment (H.J. Res. 31), introduced by Rep. Ted Deutch (FL-22), Rep. Jim McGovern (MA-02), and Rep. Jamie Raskin (MD-08)?

*The Democracy for All Amendment is a Constitutional Amendment that would overturn Supreme Court decisions including Citizens United, Buckley v. Valeo, and McCutcheon v. FEC.*

YES  NO

3. Do you support the DISCLOSE Act (H.R. 1134)?

*The DISCLOSE Act, introduced by Rep. David Cicilline (RI-01), would require "dark money" groups, such as 501(c)(4) social welfare organizations and 501(c)(6) organizations, 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

4. Do you support the KOCH Act (H.R.1439)?

*The Keeping Our Campaigns Honest (KOCH) Act, introduced by Rep. Ben Ray Lujan (NM-03), Rep. Peter Welch (VT-AL) and Rep. John Yarmuth (KY-03), would require the FCC to demand that outside political groups (dark money organizations) disclose the names of their major donors funding political ads.*

YES  NO

**5. Do you support the Government By The People Act (H.R. 20)?**

*The Government By The People Act, introduced by Rep. John Sarbanes (MD-03), would grant voters a voucher worth up to \$50 (through a tax credit) for campaign contributions, and it would provide a six-to-one federal match. This would incentivize candidates to seek widespread small-dollar funding for their campaigns.*

YES       NO

**6. Do you support the Get Foreign Money out of US Elections Act (H.R. 1615)?**

*The Foreign Money out of US Elections Act, introduced by Rep. Jamie Raskin (MD-08), would expand the current ban on campaign contributions and independent expenditures by foreign nationals to include foreign-owned and controlled domestic corporations.*

YES       NO

**7. Do you oppose the repeal of the Johnson Amendment?**

*The Johnson Amendment restricts 501 (c)(3) tax-deductible organizations, including churches, from engaging in political activity.*

YES       NO

**8. Do you support legislation requiring that publicly traded companies disclose all political spending to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)?**

*This would increase transparency and hold companies more accountable to their shareholders.*

YES       NO

9. Under current law, government contractors are restricted from making direct political contributions but are permitted to pass political spending through non-profits, such as 501(c)(4) and 501(c)(6) groups. Do you support legislation to close this loophole?

YES  NO

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

I believe that government has a responsibility to actively enfranchise all American citizens to participate in our democracy. One of my top priorities in Congress is reducing the influence of money on our elections and working to restore the confidence of citizens in their government. I recently introduced both the Clean Money Act, which would provide publically-financed vouchers for campaign advertisements to reduce the need for campaign fundraising, and the STOP Act, which would prevent Members of Congress from making direct solicitations for funding. I am also a strong supporter of nonpartisan redistricting efforts and cosponsor legislation to mandate that redistricting be done by nonpartisan commissions.

## **Want to Really Drain the Swamp? Let's Start with the Green Stuff**

Originally Published in *The Huffington Post* on February 2, 2017

As the dust settles from a divisive presidential election, one message is clear: the American people are sick and tired of business as usual in Washington. They want a government that works for them, not special interests.

While Donald Trump says he wants to “drain the swamp,” we know that his campaign benefited from the typical rolodex of mega-donors and dark money from Super PACs. There are already signs that his priorities in office will serve his campaign donors, rather than the people who elected him (what a coincidence). Donald Trump doesn't want to “drain the swamp,” he wants to double down on the old “politics as usual” that only enriches himself and those already at the top.

The fact is: we will never make Washington work for the people until we fundamentally change the way we conduct our elections and reduce the influence of big money in politics. It's a simple matter of “supply and demand.”

First, we need to restrict the supply of campaign contributions by publically financing our elections, imposing disclosure requirements, overturning Citizens United and reinstating campaign contribution limits. I know how much time and attention fundraising consumes. When I was first elected to Congress in 2014, my primary was the most expensive race in the country. That's why I've introduced legislation that would restrict Members of Congress from making direct solicitations for campaign contributions. With the cost of winning an election going up each year, elected officials are forced to choose between fundraising calls and spending time with constituents.

Second, we must address the demand for campaign contributions that forces too many elected officials to spend their time “dialing for dollars.” Members of Congress are encouraged to spend 30 hours a week fundraising for their re-election. They wouldn't be doing this if they did not feel their job depended upon it. More than ever, it does.

A key tactic in reducing the demand for campaign contributions would be eliminating the highest expense of any campaign: advertising. Eighty to ninety percent of most campaign budgets are spent on advertising, with most of the money going to pay for television ads. That's why I introduced legislation to provide candidates publically financed vouchers for advertising airtime, with strings attached to prevent abuses. In order to qualify, a candidate must be the nominee of a vote-getting party and agree to a \$200 limit on all campaign contributions. Any remaining campaign expenses – staff, phones, office rent – should be supported by small, individual contributions.

Campaign finance reform is an issue that touches on the core representational nature of our democracy. By changing the roll of money in politics, we are allowing the voice of the citizenry to be heard more clearly. This could be the most impactful progressive reform of the century, helping us all live up to the true promise of our political system.

Our need for electoral reform is a message that transcends party lines. In the last election, Bernie Sanders ran a highly successful primary campaign that was fueled by grassroots donors—a central theme of his campaign. In addition, President-elect Donald Trump repeatedly claimed that his personal wealth ensured that he would not owe favors to campaign bundlers. Both Democrats and Republicans can agree that the hallmark of active citizenry should be participation, not the ability to write a campaign check.

The road to more open and fair elections will not be easy. Obviously, amending the constitution to correct Citizens United and halting the rise of dark money Super PACs would be a tremendous win for our democracy and would slow down the influx of money influencing our elections. But amending the constitution is no easy task. That's why we must start with proposals like mine, that limit the demand for campaign dollars and reduce the overall need to spend time raising money.

As the new administration takes office and we reflect on the tumultuous campaign season, I am reminded of President Truman's words: "The highest office in the land is that of citizen." Members of Congress are sent to Washington to represent the will of their constituents, not the will of wealthy donors. Both Democrats and Republicans must come together to ensure that the voices of citizens from around the country are heard more clearly in our political process.

*Rep. Brendan F. Boyle (PA-13) is the Congressman representing the 13th Congressional District of Pennsylvania. His district spans part of Philadelphia and Montgomery County.*