

END CITIZENS UNITED

2018 Senate Questionnaire

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. 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, Mazie Hirono a candidate for office of U.S. Senate
in Hawaii certify that the answers in this questionnaire represent
my own views.



SIGNATURE

4/20/17

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 (S.J. Res. 8), introduced by Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM)?

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 (S. 229 in the 114th Congress)?

The DISCLOSE Act, introduced in the 114th Congress by Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), would require all social welfare and 501 (c)(6) organization 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

4. Do you support the Sunlight for Unaccountable Non-Profits Act (SUN Act) (S.300 in the 115th Congress)?

The SUN Act, introduced in the 115th Congress by Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT), would require all social welfare organization spend money attempting to influence an election to disclose with the FEC all donors giving more than \$5,000. Social welfare organization that do not engage in electioneering would be allowed to keep their donors secret.

YES NO

5. Do you support the Sunshine in Sponsorship Identification Act (S. 1260 in the 114th Congress)?

The Sunshine in Sponsorship Identification Act, introduced by Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL), would require the FCC to demand that outside political groups (Super PACs and dark money organizations) disclose the names of their major donors for political advertising.

YES NO

6. Do you support the Fair Elections Now Act (S. 1538 in the 114th Congress)?

The Fair Elections Now Act, introduced by Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL) in the 114th Congress, would allow candidates for the Senate to earn grants and matching funds to incentivize them to run their campaigns seeking small-dollar contributions rather than donations from PACs and wealthy individuals.

YES NO

7. Do you support the We The People Act (S. 6 in the 114th Congress)?

The We the People Act, introduced by Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM) and Sen. Ed Markey (D-MA), is a comprehensive campaign finance and government reform package with the following provisions:

1. **Non-Profit Disclosure:** Requires all organizations (including dark money groups) spending money on elections to disclose donors (over \$10,000 in an election cycle).

Provision introduced by Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)

2. **Immediate Disclosure:** Requires all candidates for federal office to disclose campaign contributions, over \$1,000, within 48 hours of receiving the contribution.

Provision introduced by Sen. Angus King (I-ME)

3. **Reform the FEC:** Replaces the dysfunctional FEC with a new independent agency to serve as a vigilant watchdog over our nation's campaign finance system.

Provision introduced by Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM)

4. **End Candidate specific Super PACs:** Eliminates candidate specific Super PACs and improves regulations to prohibit coordination between other outside groups and candidates for office.

Provision introduced by Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT)

5. **Lobbying Reform:** Implements a ban on lobbying by former Members of Congress and close disclosure loopholes that allow consultants to avoid registering as federal lobbyists.

Provision introduced by Sen. Michael Bennet (D-CO).

6. **Close the Revolving Door:** Prohibits private sector companies from granting huge bonuses to employees when they leave the private sector to work in the government.

Provision introduced by Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)

7. **Overtake Citizens United:** A Constitutional Amendment that would overturn Supreme Court decisions including *Citizens United*, *Buckley v. Valeo*, and *McCutcheon v. FEC*.

Provision introduced by Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM)

YES NO

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

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

YES NO

9. **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

10. 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

11. Do you support legislation that would establish new disclosure requirements for 501(c) organizations to safeguard against the influence of foreign money in American elections?

YES NO

12. Will you support nominees to the FEC, IRS, FCC, and SEC who understand and uphold the role of their agencies in creating a campaign finance system that is fair to every American?

YES NO

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

I believe there is no place in politics for dark money, and am dedicated to working to shed light on the secretive groups that spend millions of dollars each cycle influencing our elections. I not only support and would vote in favor of the legislation outlined above, I am currently a cosponsor of S.J.Res. 8, and I was a cosponsor of the DISCLOSE Act, the Fair Elections Now Act, and the We the People Act in the 114th Congress. I will continue to support commonsense measures that ensure the American people know who is paying for the ads designed to win their votes, and where candidates get their money.

Beyond legislative action, I have spent the last several months working to draw attention to Supreme Court nominee Judge Neil Gorsuch's record of favoring corporate interests over the rights of people, and the negative impact his presence on the Court would likely have for our elections moving forward.