

END CITIZENS UNITED

2018 House 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, **Abby Finkenauer** a candidate for office of **U.S. House (IA-01)**
in **Iowa** certify that the answers in this questionnaire represent
my own views.



SIGNATURE

6/12/17

DATE

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.

The decision in Citizens United v. FEC has been supremely damaging for the health of our democracy, and passing a constitutional amendment to overturn it and meaningful campaign finance reform to contain it will be among my chief priorities in Congress. Super PACs controlled by large corporations and the wealthiest Americans now account for roughly a fifth of all federal election spending to the tune of nearly \$2 billion per cycle. That is unacceptable and runs counter to the values of our democratic system of governance.

I've seen the damaging toll big money in politics can inflict on a state first hand through my time in the Iowa legislature. Absurdly, here in Iowa we have no limits on individual contributions to candidates for state office, meaning the richest 1% and corporate CEOs can spend as much as they want bankrolling their favored candidates. As a result, we've suffered from a Republican-controlled state government and legislature that has consistently put the interests of large corporations and the wealthy ahead of Iowa families. I've always funded my campaigns through grassroots, small-dollar support instead of big checks from millionaires, but that is not easy to do, and it can be daunting when facing the power of big money in Des Moines. It breaks my heart to think of the no-doubt countless hardworking Iowans wishing to change their state for the better who have been scared away from serving their communities in office because of the pervasive influence of this money.

It's long past time we clean up our campaign finance system and get big money out of politics so we can restore the influence of working Americans. The future of Iowa and our country depends on it.