

# 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](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, Dana Balter a candidate for office of U.S. Representative  
in NY-24 certify that the answers in this questionnaire represent  
my own views.

**Dana Balter**

SIGNATURE

**03/01/2018**

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 Get 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.

First of all, I have pledged not to take money from corporate PACs in this campaign nor will I accept their money in any future campaigns. On the campaign trail, I talk to voters about the need to get big money out of politics. As long as our system allows large financial contributions from private interests, elected officials will put those interests' needs ahead of their constituents' needs. This is not only in fundamental opposition to the basic tenets of elected representation, it also prevents us from making progress on a host of important issues like the costs of prescription drugs and renewable energy investment. Therefore, I will prioritize meaningful campaign finance reform legislation while in office with the ultimate goal of public financing of elections.