



Helping achieve an open and accountable government

April 7, 2016

The Honorable Shirley Weber
Chair, Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee
State Capitol, Room 365
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cc: The Honorable Kevin Mullin and Members of the Assembly Elections Committee

RE: AB 2523 (Mullin) – Local Contribution Limits - SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Weber,

The California Clean Money Campaign is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that has been working on the problems of money in politics in California for more than 14 years, with more than 150,000 supporters across the state who care deeply about improving California's campaign finance system.

On behalf of the California Clean Money Campaign, I am writing with a letter of support for Assembly Bill 2523. AB 2523 would establish a \$4,200 cap on contributions to campaigns for local elected office in jurisdictions that have not adopted any local limits. Allowing unlimited campaign contributions has a corrupting influence on local democracy, and contributes to voter cynicism with government.

Under current law, there are no contribution limits on local campaigns, unless a jurisdiction chooses to adopt limits. The vast majority have not done so. Candidates have received \$90,000 checks from contributors, more than 20 times what is allowed to state legislators, whose districts are typically many times larger.

AB 2523 provides a reasonable contribution cap to stop the worst contribution abuses, while respecting local autonomy to set limits tailored to the needs of that community. We therefore respectfully request your "Aye" vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Trent Lange". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Trent Lange
President
California Clean Money Campaign

California Clean Money Campaign

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