



Helping achieve an open and accountable government

April 21, 2016

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

Cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Mark Leno, and Members of the Assembly Elections Committee

RE: SB 254 (Allen & Leno) – The Overturn Citizens United Act - 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 SB 254, which would place a Voter Instruction before the People of California in November 2016, calling upon all of California's elected officials to use all of their constitutional authority including but not limited to drafting, passing and ratifying an amendment or amendments to the US Constitution to overturn Citizens United v. FEC and "other applicable judicial precedents" to allow for the full regulation or limitation of campaign contributions and spending and to make clear that corporations should not have the constitutional rights of human beings.

The Supreme Court of the United States, acting without the support or consent of We The People, and without judicial restraint, has eviscerated over one hundred years of campaign finance laws enacted by the US Congress with its finding that limiting spending on elections, limits speech.

If our democratic republic and system of representative government is to survive, these egregiously damaging rulings must be overturned. The only way that can be accomplished, barring the unlikely event that the Court reverses itself, is through the amendment process afforded us by the US Constitution.

Further, The California Supreme Court's unprecedented action which removed the CA Legislature's legitimately enacted law, SB 1272, The Overturn Citizens United Act (2014), later Proposition 49, from the 2014 California ballot wrongly delayed and denied Californian voters their hard won franchise.

By placing SB 254, The Overturn Citizens United Act, on the statewide ballot and by giving all Californians the opportunity to directly respond to these disastrous rulings, the California Legislature can lead the country, once again, in the national discussion that is ever more urgently necessary.

California Clean Money Campaign

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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 style with a large, looping initial "T".

Trent Lange
President
California Clean Money Campaign

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