

January 23, 2017

U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Support the Democracy for All Amendment

Dear Member of Congress:

Our civic groups and scholars proudly endorse the “Democracy for All” constitutional amendment that will be introduced by Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM) and Rep. Ted Deutch (D-Fl.), and we encourage you to join as co-sponsors in support of this critically-important measure.

Our organizations and scholars include: American Family Voices, Center for Media and Democracy, Church Women United in New York State, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW), Clean Elections Texas, Coffee Party Savannah, Common Cause, Daily Kos, Democracy Matters, Faith Voices Arkansas, Franciscan Action Network, Free Speech for People, James A. Thurber, Money Out People In (MOPI), Money Out Voters In (MOVI), Norman L. Eisen, Norman J. Ornstein, OpenTheGovernment.org, People For the American Way, Pesticide Action Network, Public Citizen, Rural Coalition, Small Planet Institute, Vermont Political Revolution, Veterans for Peace Albuquerque.

The Democracy for All Amendment is a constitutional amendment that would restore the ability of Congress and state legislatures to regulate the raising and spending of money in elections. It overturns misguided Supreme Court decisions like *Buckley v. FEC* (1976) and *Citizens United v. FEC* (2010) that threaten the integrity of our democracy. These Supreme Court decisions together have created a system in which outside interests can spend unlimited amounts of money on political elections with little transparency or accountability. This has allowed wealthy and powerful corporations and individuals to purchase outsized influence in our political process and has allowed many of the major funders of our elections to hide in the shadows.

While amending the Constitution is unquestionably a weighty matter—only warranted in rare and compelling circumstances—this is one of those moments in our nation’s history. The American people are increasingly speaking out about the need for commonsense limits on money in elections. Support for an amendment is robust compared to other solutions. And those other solutions fare better when paired with an amendment.

Americans are fed up.

Big problems call for big solutions.

The time to put our democracy back in the hands of “We, the People” is now.

We need your voice in this movement. If you have yet to become a cosponsor, contact Joel Richard [Joel.Richard@mail.house.gov] in Rep. Deutch's office or Matt Nelson [Matt_Nelson@tomudall.senate.gov] in Sen. Udall's office.

Sincerely,

American Family Voices
Center for Media and Democracy
Church Women United in New York State
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW)
Clean Elections Texas
Coffee Party Savannah
Common Cause
Daily Kos
Democracy Matters
Faith Voices Arkansas
Franciscan Action Network
Free Speech for People
James A. Thurber
Money Out People In (MOPI)
Money Out Voters In (MOVI)
Norman L. Eisen
Norman J. Ornstein
OpenTheGovernment.org
People For the American Way
Pesticide Action Network
Public Citizen
Rural Coalition
Small Planet Institute
Vermont Political Revolution
Veterans for Peace Albuquerque.