

## HOW POLITICAL FUNDRAISING IMPACTS VIRGINIA BUSINESS

*Is our Free-Market Business Environment at Risk Due to Money in Politics? What can you do as a Virginia business owner?*

Join us for this webinar! Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7<sup>pm</sup>

**IN TODAY'S AMERICA**, free enterprise is too often replaced by “pay-to-play,” where firms and special interests use political spending to compete for favors. Business leaders feel pressure to compete in the political money arms race, and lawmakers are forced to spend 30-70% of their time fundraising. This system of political financing has led to an unhealthy form of capitalism that undermines the real drivers of economic innovation and growth, and corrupts our representative democracy.

This one-hour program presented by American Promise, a non-partisan national organization working to reform the U.S. campaign finance system, will examine the ways unlimited, unaccountable, and concentrated money in our political system creates dysfunction and political polarization. We will:

- review the issue of money in politics and discuss how it affects small and medium size businesses.
- identify policy options to address the issue, both federally through a Constitutional amendment which allows Congress and the states to regulate election spending and in Virginia, a state with some of the laxest campaign finance laws in the country.
- brainstorm on how individuals and businesses can take action to strengthen the free-enterprise economy, and make government more accountable to the people it serves.

### SPEAKERS



**PATTI MORRISSEY** is a member of the Dulles Chamber of Commerce and a member of American Promise. She is a career national security expert who recently retired from government to start her own company, Global Foresight Strategies. Patti also has 36 years of political experience, including as a two-time candidate for the House of Delegates, which has made her a passionate advocate for campaign finance reform.



**JOHN P. McCREA** has 30+ years in business as a General Manager in the Computer Consulting Business in the Washington, D.C. Commercial /Federal marketplace. He is currently the manager of the American Promise national business network.



**NANCY MORGAN**, coordinator of the Virginia chapter of American Promise, is an economist retired after working 20 years with the United Nations. Her work focused on economic development in developing countries, good governance, and poverty reduction. Now she works to promote good governance in federal and state legislation.



**DAVID BLACK**, Retired President & CEO, Harrisburg, PA Regional Chamber & CREDC. John served for over 20 years in the Chamber and he has extensive expertise in economic development, both on a county level as well as on a regional level with the Northwest Regional Planning & Development Commission. His diverse background includes running for political office when he was younger and serving as County Commissioner.