



THE MONEY OF POLITICS

BRINGING TRANSPARENCY TO THE VOTERS OF FLORIDA

OUR VISION AND MISSION

Through our “Come Clean Florida” campaign, we will seek to put an end to the “legal laundering” of millions of dollars in special interest campaign contributions through political committees controlled by legislative leaders, as well as through the Republican and Democrat parties of Florida.

We do not take exception to a certain level of authority and power residing in the offices of legislative leadership. This is necessary to ensure the functionality of a deliberative body. It is the excessive level of power and control accumulated as a result of the corrupting influence of special interest money that we take exception to. It is clear that the people of Florida are losing their ability to influence the outcome of legislation vital to their interests.

A ruling class has been created in Tallahassee consisting of the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker and a few powerful lieutenants. We believe a healthier balance of power needs to be restored between legislative leadership and the members. More importantly, the balance of power needs to be restored between the government in general and the people of Florida.

This is not a Republican or Democrat issue. This is not about conservative, liberal, progressive or libertarian political philosophy. This is about transparency and accountability. This is about honesty and integrity in the political process. The “legal laundering” of campaign contributions and special interest money must end. State parties need to stay out of local primaries. We the People have had enough!



HOW THE MONEY IS USED NOW

The Current Law and How it
is Used



CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW

Florida Statutes Chapter 106 “Campaign Financing” allows for the following committees to exist for the purpose of influencing elections in Florida: Political Committees, Affiliated Party Committees, and Electioneering Communications Organizations. These committees can accept unlimited contributions and make unlimited expenditures either on behalf of candidates or in opposition to candidates. They can communicate directly with candidates and their staffs and coordinate on fund raising and advertising. They can all make unlimited contributions to each other and to political parties. When making an expenditure they only have to disclose the entity or company receiving the funds. They do not have to disclose on which candidates behalf or for what purpose their expenditures are being made.



HOW IS IT USED?

- Corruption in politics is nothing new. Corruption in politics, institutionalized in Florida Statute, is unacceptable and must not be tolerated.
- Tallahassee politicians have created a campaign finance system that even a CPA would have a difficult time tracking.
- The people of Florida have lost their voice in the Florida legislature. It's been drowned out by millions of dollars in special interest campaign contributions being "legally laundered" through myriad political committees, PACs, electioneering communications organizations and political parties.
- Millions and Millions of dollars in expenditures with no meaningful disclosure. Only the media company, printer or consultant is disclosed. Not what the money was spent for, or on which politician's behalf the money was spent.
- Zero accountability, zero transparency. That's the way the campaign finance game gets played in Florida.
- Limits on contributions to candidate's campaigns are meaningless when candidates can create so called independent political committees that can accept unlimited special interest contributions.
- Political parties, so called independent political committees and electioneering communications organizations are all taking unlimited special interest contributions, and then making unlimited contributions back and forth to each other in order to hide where the money for campaigns is coming from.
- There's a new ruling class that's been created in Tallahassee consisting of the Governor, the Senate President and President Elect, the House Speaker and the Speaker Designate. And they frankly don't care what you think. They're too busy legislating favors for the special interests that are pumping millions into their political committees to take time to listen to you. And when they're not legislating favors, they're thinking of new ways to manipulate these same special interests into pouring in millions more.
- Legislative leadership on both sides of the aisle are working with the two major political parties to control the outcome of local primary elections. Control the primaries and you control the legislature. It's that simple.
- Critical issues are being decided by legislative leadership outside the legislative process and then being rubber stamped by the legislative bodies.

THE COME CLEAN FLORIDA PLAN

Real Campaign Finance
Reform



COME
CLEAN
FLORIDA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM



OUR PLAN

1. Elimination of Affiliated Party Committees, aka, “Leadership Funds”.

Only incoming legislative leaders such as the Senate President, the House Speaker and the minority party leader in each chamber, can establish an APC. These leaders raise unlimited sums of money through these committees, taking in unlimited individual contributions. These funds are then used in conjunction with other funds raised by the parties to influence, if not dictate, the outcome of House or Senate primary contests. Primaries should be decided by the voters of the district, not by legislative leaders and party leadership in Tallahassee.

2. Prohibit Incumbent Legislators or candidates from establishing or controlling a Political Committee or an Electioneering Communications Organization.

Campaign finance reforms enacted during the 2013 legislative session have done nothing to weaken the influence of special interest money over the legislative process. Leadership claimed credit for campaign finance reform because they eliminated Committees of Continuous Existence. However, the same legislation that eliminated CCEs also eliminated the limits on contributions to Political Committees. There had been a \$500 per election limit. The legislation amended the statute to allow unlimited contributions to any Political Committee and also provided that existing CCEs could contribute their entire fund balance into a PC. Every legislator operating a CCE was able to roll their fund balance into a newly formed or existing PC and continue taking unlimited contributions. The more things change, the more they remain the same.

3. Prohibit the Parties, Political Committees and Electioneering Communications Organizations from making unlimited contributions to each other.

Currently these unlimited contributions between the Parties, PCs and ECOs serve to obscure the actual source of the funds being used by these various entities. A PC receiving a six figure contribution from the party for instance just has to show the party as the contributor. But who made the original contribution to the party? What if the party makes a contribution to a PC that then makes a contribution to an ECO? The public would have to work their way through the reports of three separate entities in order to learn the original source of the funds.

4. Prohibit political parties from contributing to candidates in primaries.

Current law allows political parties to contribute directly to candidates in a primary election. There have been many instances of challengers losing to incumbents by only a few hundred votes, even after a last minute infusion of cash or in kind services from the party to the incumbent. Typically these contributions come from the party at the direction of House or Senate leadership seeking to protect the incumbent and maintain their control over their respective chambers.

5. Require Political Committees and ECOs to disclose the candidate beneficiaries of all expenditures on their expenditure reports.

WE NEED YOU

How You Can Help the
Efforts





Sign the Petition

**SUPPORTING AMENDMENTS TO FLORIDA STATUTES GOVERNING CAMPAIGN FINANCE;
MINIMIZING THE INFLUENCE OF POLITICAL COMMITTEES, MAXIMIZING TRANSPARENCY
AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING, AND ELIMINATING THE
LEGAL LAUNDERING OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.**

As currently written, Florida law promotes the proliferation of Political Committees (pc) in Florida. The statute allows these PCs to accept unlimited contributions and make unlimited expenditures for the purpose of influencing the outcome of elections in Florida. The statute allows incumbent legislators and legislative leadership to establish PCs for their personal political use and allows unlimited contributions between individual PCs and between PCs and political parties.

These provisions of the statute have served to make individual and corporate limitations on contributions to political candidate's campaign accounts meaningless and these provisions have resulted in an unprecedented increase in special interest contributions to PCs controlled by legislative leadership and also to the political parties in Florida.

This has allowed for legislative leadership, operating in partnership with powerful special interests, and working through these political committees and political parties to exercise an undue level of control and influence over the results of primary election campaigns. As a result, the people of Florida are losing their voice in the legislative process and their ability to influence issues vital to their well being.

Therefore, we the undersigned Citizens of the State of Florida do hereby endorse and promote amendments to Florida Statutes intended to minimize the influence of Political Committees, maximize transparency and accountability in campaign finance reporting, and eliminate the legal laundering of campaign contributions.

Name:

Date:

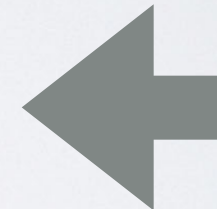
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Southern Hills Ct.
Melbourne, FL 32940

Sign the
Petition



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512 Southern Hills Ct.
Melbourne, FL 32940

By Phone: (321) 403-4441



Contribute Now



QUESTIONS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!