

April 29, 2010

congressman
ROBERT BRADY
serving pennsylvania's first district

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The Brady Brief - Protecting Our Elections

Dear Friend,

Today, along with three of my colleagues, I proudly introduced the DISCLOSE Act. This bill will address the Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United v. FEC and guarantee transparency and disclosure in our electoral process. The DISCLOSE Act will ensure our elections are protected from the influence of special interests, and will assure electoral power remains in the hands of ordinary citizens.

On January 21, 2010, the Supreme Court ruled on the case of Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission. The Court's ruling on this case overturned two decades of precedents that prohibited corporate and union expenditures in political campaigns. Because of this ruling, big money interests will be able to spend tens of millions of dollars on elections, which will undoubtedly drown out the voices of average Americans.

The bipartisan DISCLOSE Act will accomplish three important goals:

1. Increases transparency and disclosure of political spending

- Requires heads of organizations to 'stand by their ad' in the same way candidates must and the top five contributors will be listed on the screen at the end of the ad
- If outside groups spend their funds in campaigns, voters have a right to know who is delivering and paying for the message
- Prevents powerful special interests from hiding behind sham organizations and dummy corporations in their ads

2. Prevents foreign companies—including those owned by hostile foreign governments—from influencing America's elections

- Bars U.S. corporations that are controlled by foreign interests from making political expenditures
- Ensures that foreign corporations, who do not put our country first, are not able to impact our elections or buy our democracy

3. Ensures that entities that receive taxpayer money can't spend money in elections

- Prevents federal contractors and TARP recipients from making political expenditures

I stand committed to protecting our elections from special interests. I will do all in my power to ensure the DISCLOSE Act's passage, and I will continue to work so that your voice is heard. If you have any questions regarding this or any other issue, please

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Sincerely,



Robert Brady
Member of Congress

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