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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 28, 2006

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Enough is Enough

Restore the First Amendment and Transparency in our Elections

Dear Colleague:

Since passage of the Federal Election Campaign Act in 1974, Congress has repeatedly sought to regulate campaign finance. Every "solution" has brought on more problems. First, contribution limits gave way to soft money. Then, soft money limits produced the growth of 527's. Now, we will place limits on 527's and soon enough there will be another vehicle to replace them – 501(C)4 organizations.

It is time to accept the truth about campaign finance regulation – it doesn't work. For many years now, I have been supporting a different type of campaign finance reform: allow individuals and candidates to exercise their First Amendment rights while increasing transparency to let the voters decide. The Citizen Legislature and Political Freedom Act (H.R. 4759) does the following:

- **repeals hard money limits on how much individuals or groups may contribute to candidates or parties; repeals limits on how much parties may contribute to candidates;**
- **terminates taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns;**
- **requires electronic filing of campaign reports; requires reports to be filed every 24 hours during 3 months preceding an election;**
- **requires FEC to post all campaign reports on the Internet; and bars acceptance of campaign contributions unless certain disclosure requirements are met ("best effort" no longer permitted for certain contributions).**

My proposal is rooted in the belief that, in a democracy, the government should not have the power to limit nor prohibit political participation. In a country that is truly free, the best we can hope for -- indeed, the most we should ask for -- is full disclosure of campaign contributions so that voters can make informed decisions.

If you would like to become a cosponsor of the Citizen Legislature and Political Freedom Act, or would like more information on the bill, please contact Evan Goitein of my staff at x52511.

Sincerely,

JOHN T. DOOLITTLE
United States Representative

COUNTIES: BUTTE*, EL DORADO, LASSEN, MODOC, NEVADA, PLACER, PLUMAS, SACRAMENTO*, SIERRA — *PARTIAL

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