

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 17, 2013

The Honorable Robert Goodlatte
Chairman
House Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Conyers
Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary
B-351 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Goodlatte and Ranking Member Conyers:

Three years ago, the Supreme Court's decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* opened the door to unlimited corporate and individual spending to influence American voters and threatened the integrity of our electoral process. We are writing to request a hearing to explore constitutional amendment proposals in response to *Citizens United* and related cases. In the 112th Congress, fourteen constitutional remedies to *Citizens United*, each varying in scope and approach, were introduced in the House of Representatives. Unfortunately, not a single hearing was held by the House Judiciary Committee or its subcommittees on this pressing national issue.

The 2012 election was the most expensive to date, with an estimated \$6 billion dollars spent. The Federal Election Commission reports that outside groups, including more than 1,200 super PACs, spent over \$970 million dollars alone. The Sunlight Foundation reported more than \$123 million in anonymous spending. In years to come, this spending is sure to expand at all levels and spread the corrupting influence of money in our political process.

As members of the Task Force on Election Reform, we know that there are several important legislative actions that Congress should pursue to mitigate the influx of unregulated money in our elections. We firmly support those legislative proposals and believe that amending the Constitution to directly address the harm inflicted by the *Citizens United* decision is a key component of the effort. We appreciate the tremendous importance of amending our nation's founding document, yet we find such action is warranted as *Citizens United* poses a direct threat to our democracy. We know you share our belief that Congress has no greater responsibility than to protect the integrity of our elections.

We respectfully request that the House Judiciary Committee hold a hearing on constitutional remedies to address *Citizens United* and related cases at the earliest possible opportunity. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



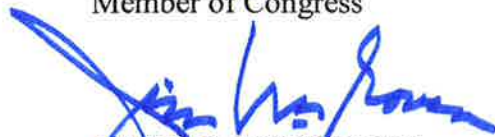
DONNA F. EDWARDS
Member of Congress





THEODORE E. DEUTCH
Member of Congress

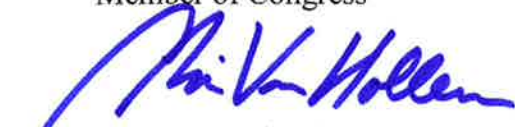

JOHN LARSON
Member of Congress


MARCY KAPTUR
Member of Congress


JAMES P. MCGOVERN
Member of Congress


RUSH D. HOLT
Member of Congress


ADAM B. SCHIFF
Member of Congress



CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
Member of Congress



ED PERLMUTTER
Member of Congress

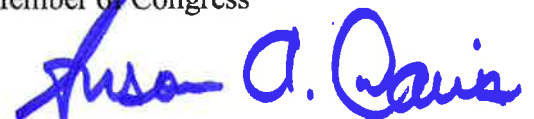

JOHN A. YARMUTH
Member of Congress



KURT SCHRADER
Member of Congress

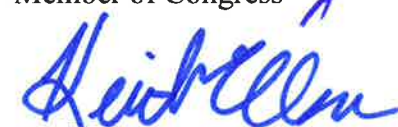

GEORGE MILLER
Member of Congress

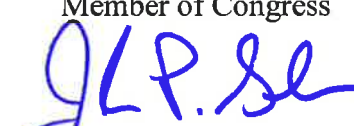

DAVID E. PRICE
Member of Congress

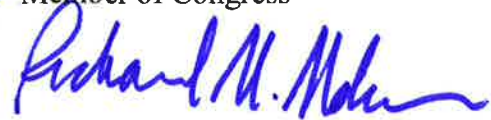

ROBERT A. BRADY
Member of Congress


SUSAN A. DAVIS
Member of Congress


RAUL M. GRIJALVA
Member of Congress


KEITH ELLISON
Member of Congress


JOHN P. SARBANES
Member of Congress


RICK NOLAN
Member of Congress