

Save Our Democracy: Stop Dark Money

Fellow Arizonan's,

I had the pleasure of serving as your Governor during a simpler time. A simpler time when you actually knew who your political opponent was. Today, running for office requires great risk and great courage. Risk that you never know who your actual political opponent might be. It's like being in a boxing match with an opponent you can't see. It takes substantial courage to fight someone you can't even see. It is time to end that.

Dark money is political spending on elections by anonymous sources. Dark money benefactors have the power to donate unlimited funds without any disclosure, ultimately impacting the results of our elections. The contributions of ordinary citizens are capped and are a matter of public record, yet a few organizations and individuals are protected from declaring their donations. It is time to end that, this initiative will do that.

Arizonan's have the right to know who is participating in our elections. Today undisclosed contributions could be coming from out of state, out of country, organized crime groups, drug cartels or even foreign governments. We must put an end to this. We must return the power to the voters, to the people of our great State and demand that contributions be disclosed. This is as it was and as it should be today.

During the 2020 elections over \$20 million was spent by anonymous sources to influence the outcome of our State legislative elections alone. Arizona voters deserve to know the individuals and corporations that are influencing our vote.

Other states like Alaska and Montana have demanded disclosure and it's time for Arizona to do the same. As the late Conservative Supreme Court Justice Anton Scalia said, "Requiring people to stand up in public for their political acts fosters civic courage, without which democracy is doomed. For my part, I do not look forward to a society which, thanks to the Supreme Court, campaigns anonymously... This does not resemble the home of the brave."

It is time we live up to the late Justice Scalia's hopes for our country and be brave, this initiative will do that. It deserves your support, please vote yes.

Sincerely,

Governor Fife Symington



Karen Zanzucchi
July 6, 2022