



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CALIFORNIA

September 20, 2017

The Honorable Jodi Remke, Chair
The Honorable Commissioners Maria Audero, Brian Hatch, and Allison Hayward
Fair Political Practices Commission
1102 Q Street, Suite 3000
Sacramento, CA 95811
CommAsst@fppc.ca.gov

Re: Agenda Item 42: Request Support for AB 249 (Mullin and Levine), California Disclose Act

Dear Chair Remke and Commissioners:

The League of Women Voters of California is pleased to support AB 249 (Mullin and Levine), the California Disclose Act.

The League believes that the methods of financing political campaigns should enhance political equality for all citizens, ensure maximum participation by citizens in the political process, protect representative democracy from being distorted by big spending in election campaigns, provide voters sufficient information about candidates and campaign issues to make informed choices, ensure transparency and the public's right to know who is using money to influence elections, enable candidates to compete equitably for public office, ensure that candidates have sufficient funds to communicate their messages to the public, and combat corruption and undue influence in government. We support state campaign finance practices for candidates and advocates of ballot measure positions that will ensure full disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures.

The League has a history of supporting the advertisement disclosures specified in this bill. Over the past seven years the League has strongly supported making disclosures clearly legible, and disclosing the true funders of advertisements, not simply bland committee names.

The California Disclose Act will be a significant step forward in making it clear to the public who are the top funders of campaigns and ballot measures. We urge you to endorse or, at the least, maintain your neutral stance on this bill.

Sincerely,

Helen L. Hutchison
President

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cc: Assembly Member Kevin Mullin
Assembly Member Marc Levine
Trent Lange, President, California Clean Money Campaign