
Empowering People-Powered Politics Over Corporate Interests in the Democratic Party

Passed by the Campaign Finance Reform on July 12, 2017

Passed by the Issues Committee on August 24, 2017

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee believes that we can lead by example through adopting policies that further Democratic progressive ideals in campaign finance reform; and,

WHEREAS, we Democrats can reform and revive our party by empowering diverse grassroots Democrats at the leadership table and in our communities; and,

WHEREAS, we should strive to build on our successes with a people-oriented, publicly funded type of donor fundraising program; and,

WHEREAS, the American people are looking at Democrats to promote people-powered politics in this era of resistance, revival, and reform but are rightly concerned that their voices are drowned out; and,

WHEREAS, as President Barack Obama said in his farewell address, “When trust in our institutions is low, we should reduce the corrosive influence of money in our politics, and insist on the principles of transparency and ethics in public service;” and,

WHEREAS, the overwhelming influence of corporate money has damaged public trust in our local, state and federal politics:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee supports a U.S. Constitutional amendment that establishes the rights of natural persons as it relates to campaign finance -- noted by the words “people”, “person”, or “citizen” as used in the Constitution -- and does not include corporations, limited liability corporations, or other corporate entities established by the laws of any State, the United States, or any foreign state; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing contained herein shall be construed to limit the rights of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, free exercise of religion, freedom of association and all other rights of the people, which rights are unalienable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee will support and work to promote public financing by the people as the gold standard for the financing of political candidates in all races for public office in Miami-Dade County, Florida, and the United States; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee will lead by example and refuse any donations from bad corporate citizens, including private prison companies, namely C.C.A. and Geo Group, “Big Sugar”, namely Florida Crystals and U.S. Sugar, FPL and their parent company Nextera, for-profit charter school companies that enrich themselves off our children's education including but not limited to Academica, Charter Schools USA, and Imagine Schools, and the N.R.A.; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee will additionally refuse donations from the registered lobbyists of, and any PACs associated with the entities listed above; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee encourages all Democratic local, state, and federal candidates in Miami-Dade to refuse any donations from bad corporate citizens, such as, those listed above, their registered lobbyists, and any PACs associated with them; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee instructs the Campaign Finance Reform working group to continue to study corporate influence in our elections and make ongoing annual recommendations related to bad corporate citizens in January of each year; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee instructs the Issues Committee Chair to transmit this resolution and actively work with other county DEC's in Florida and the Florida Democratic Party to encourage similar passage in their committees.