



KEY MESSAGES AND TALKING POINTS:

Citizens United

- *Citizens United* is a Supreme Court ruling that opened the floodgates of special interest spending in our elections.
- After *Citizens United*, spending in federal elections nearly doubled - from \$5.3 billion in 2008 to \$10 billion in 2012! Spending is expected to double again this election.

Voter Instruction

- Prop 59 tells Congress and the State Legislature to pass an amendment to the U.S Constitution to end damaging special interest political spending
- California voters have used ballot measures to instruct and improve our state and local governments before.
- Prop 59 sends a powerful message that we must overturn Citizens United and get money out of politics

Amendment

- We have passed 27 amendments—12 amendments in the last century alone.
- Seven times in our history, Americans have passed constitutional amendments to overturn misguided court rulings and the time has come to do so again.

Corporations

- Corporations are not people
- Only natural human beings should have constitutional rights!
- Corporations have statutory rights and are protected under state law.
- Prop 59 is the 1st step toward ending the undue influence of corporations on Congress

Congress

- Congress is broken because Congress listens to the special interests more than the people.
- Prop 59 is the 1st step toward making Congress work for the people again.

Power

- Voters view corporations, oil companies and Wall Street as having the greatest influence on politics
- But they overwhelmingly feel that citizens should have the greatest influence.
- Prop 59 is the 1st step in assuring that all citizens, regardless of wealth, should have the greatest influence on our elected officials and the policies they make.

Foreign

- Because political donations can now be made in secret, it is possible that foreign corporations and governments, like Russia, could try to influence American elections through secret donations.

Paid for by Overturn Citizens United, Yes on 59, major funding provided by NextGen California Committee and the California Democratic Party, FPPC ID # 1386909

- Voting for Prop 59 and moving toward overturning Citizens United is the best way to keep foreign money out of our elections.

Secret Spending or Dark Money

- Citizens United makes it possible for shadowy SuperPACs to spend millions on TV ads to influence elections without having to publicly disclose who is really paying for the ads
- By voting for Prop 59 we can get dark money out of our elections

Grassroots

- Politicians will only vote to end the special interest stranglehold on our political process if there is a groundswell of grassroots support across the country
- When California leads, other states – and the nation – follow.
- That is why it's so important that California send a strong signal with Prop 59 to get special interest money out of our campaigns.

Taxes

- Tax laws are written by special interests to benefit big corporations and the very wealthy leaving the rest of the 98% to pick up the tab.
- Prop 59 will help end this injustice so that everyone pays his fair share of taxes.

Liberals

- It's not just corporations that have taken advantage of Citizens United
- Left-leaning special interests like unions and trial lawyers can now spend unlimited money to elect who they want.
- Which, in states like California, gives them vast influence in state government.
- Prop 59 will help to reduce the influence of **all** big-money special interests.