



EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT THE PLANET.

July 30, 2019

Dear Senator,

On behalf of the Sierra Club's over 3.5 million members and supporters, I write to express our support of the Democracy For All companion bill for H.J. Res 2, a proposed constitutional amendment to fix and strengthen our broken campaign finance systems. Over the past decade, the Supreme Court has heard multiple cases dealing with the fundamental nature of our First Amendment. The Court's misguided decisions, however, have diluted the voice of "we the people," subjugating individual citizens under the power of wealthy corporations and polluters. I strongly encourage all members of Congress to co-sponsor this amendment.

The American people have spoken -- they want Congress to restore our democracy. We must end big money's stranglehold on our political system. After our most recent election, 77 percent of Americans agreed that "there should be a limit on the amount of money individuals and groups can spend on campaigns." And they are right. The consequences of uncontrolled campaign spending are painfully evident. Popular efforts to fight the pollution of our land, air, water, and climate are systematically curtailed by special interests with disproportionate control over America's elected representatives.

The Democracy for All amendment is a crucial step in restoring a fair, democratic political system. Its implications are simple. If passed, Democracy for All would allow Congress and the states to create common sense limits on what individuals, outside groups, and politicians can raise and spend in elections. The amendment would give Congress and the states the power to distinguish between the everyday voter and corporations, potentially forbidding the latter from using their large treasuries to sway elections. And while the financial power of Super PACs and dark money groups is regulated, this amendment explicitly preserves and protects the freedom of the press.

Amending the constitution is an ambitious and challenging proposition. It is rightfully reserved for the most pressing of our national issues. Yet that is exactly what lies before

us today. It is our constitutional duty to ensure that our political system embodies the very thing that makes it special: the American citizenry. We urge you to support Democracy for All as the 28th amendment to our constitution and the path towards parity in campaign finance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Brune". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Brune
Executive Director