Essay

The True and Profound Democracy Amendment: The Omnibus Anti-Corruption Amendment

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ABSTRACT

In light of the US Supreme Court recent rulings in the Citizens United case which altered the intent of the Constitution, I propose "the True and Profound Democracy Amendment" to our constitution to reverse the pollution of the political process by mandating that elected officials represent the citizens of this country only, and are entirely unavailable to be influenced by funds, gifts or gimmicks.

Key Words: democracy, US Constitution, anti-corruption, amendment.

Rationale

Whereas the US Supreme Court in the recent ruling in the Citizens United case has altered the intent of the Constitution to suggest that entities other than citizens, such as corporations, or unions may have as applicable the terms of the US Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Amendments to the Constitution, therefore the citizens of the United States for the sake of their liberty and to reverse the pollution of the political process shall mandate that elected officials represent the citizens of this country only, and are entirely unavailable to be influenced by funds, gifts or gimmicks.

Entities such as corporations and unions have the right to make their interests known and to influence by reasoned persuasion, not by buying the votes of elected or to be elected officials.

Therefore, the influence of self-interested funding and any form of financial lobbying of members of the Congress shall cease once and for all.

Therefore, political campaigns will henceforth be funded by assessment of a small and justifiable fee to each citizen, in a range based on wealth - for example up to 100 dollars per citizen per year, to be distributed to candidates' campaigns for Federal election on the basis of the results of primary campaigns.

No candidate shall be allowed to expend more than \$10,000 of their own or relatives' and friends' funds for any election - primary or final elections.

Therefore, the proposed 28th Amendment shall restore democracy to the citizenry of the United States by eliminating the financial influence of entities and individuals on both the election and the political processes of the Federal government.

Only citizens are fully protected by the Constitution of the United States.

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Proposed 28th Amendment to the United States Constitution

As per Article Two of the United States Constitution which defines the pay of the President: Pay. The President receives "Compensation" for being the President, and this compensation may not be increased or decreased during the president's term in office.

The President may not receive other compensation from either the United States or any of the individual states.

Therefore, All Representatives and Senators elected by the citizenry of the United States also shall be so bound and this shall apply to their staffs and offices as well. Pay: Representatives and Senators receive "Compensation" for being Representatives and Senators, and this compensation may not be increased or decreased save as per the 27th Amendment: No law, varying the compensation for the services of Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened. Representatives and Senators may not receive other compensation from either the United States or any of the individual states. No other compensation may be received from any other sources whatsoever other than citizens of the United States and those amounts must be declared by each recipient and the limit on all such contributions made by individual citizens shall be set by law by Congress.

No other entity may seek to influence by electioneering or contribution to candidates for election to both houses of Congress. Only citizens of the United States have the right to vote and the citizens of the United States have the right to have their Representatives and Senators solely represent them and no other entity. The Bill of Rights applies solely to citizens of the United States as per the Constitution and not to any other entity.

Congress shall have the right to assess and collect funds from the citizenry on an equal person by person basis for the sake of making funds available directly to candidates for election and this revenue shall be the sole source available for electioneering.

The terms of Representatives shall be limited to six, or twelve years. The number of terms for Senators shall be limited to two or twelve years.

Federal political campaigns will henceforth be funded by assessment of a small and justifiable fee to each citizen, in a range based on wealth--for example up to 100 dollars per citizen per year, to be distributed to candidates' campaigns for Federal election on the basis of the results of primary campaigns, this range to be set by Congress.

No candidate shall be allowed to expend more than \$10,000 of their own, or relatives' and friends' funds for any election--primary or final elections.

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