

# American Promise Candidate Pledge: FACT SHEET



Consider these facts and figures as you decide whether to sign the American Promise Candidate Pledge and join us in fighting big money in politics.

**What issue does the 28th Amendment address?** Massive, increasing amounts of money are disproportionately influencing state and federal elections, and driving public policies toward private interests clearly at odds with the majority opinion and the public interest.

Increasingly, the best-funded campaigns win elections, creating an escalating cycle of increases in campaign spending. This cycle creates major barriers for interested candidates and forces elected officials to expend increasing amounts of time raising money to win re-election.

**What is the 28th Amendment?** The Supreme Court has prohibited citizens and legislators from setting limits to money in our political system ruling money is protected free speech. The 28th Amendment will allow Congress and state legislatures to set common sense, fair limits on political spending in a comprehensive and permanent way.

**Is this a partisan issue?** No. In a recent Pew Research Centers poll, 77% of Americans say, “there should be limits on the amount of money individuals and organizations” can spend on

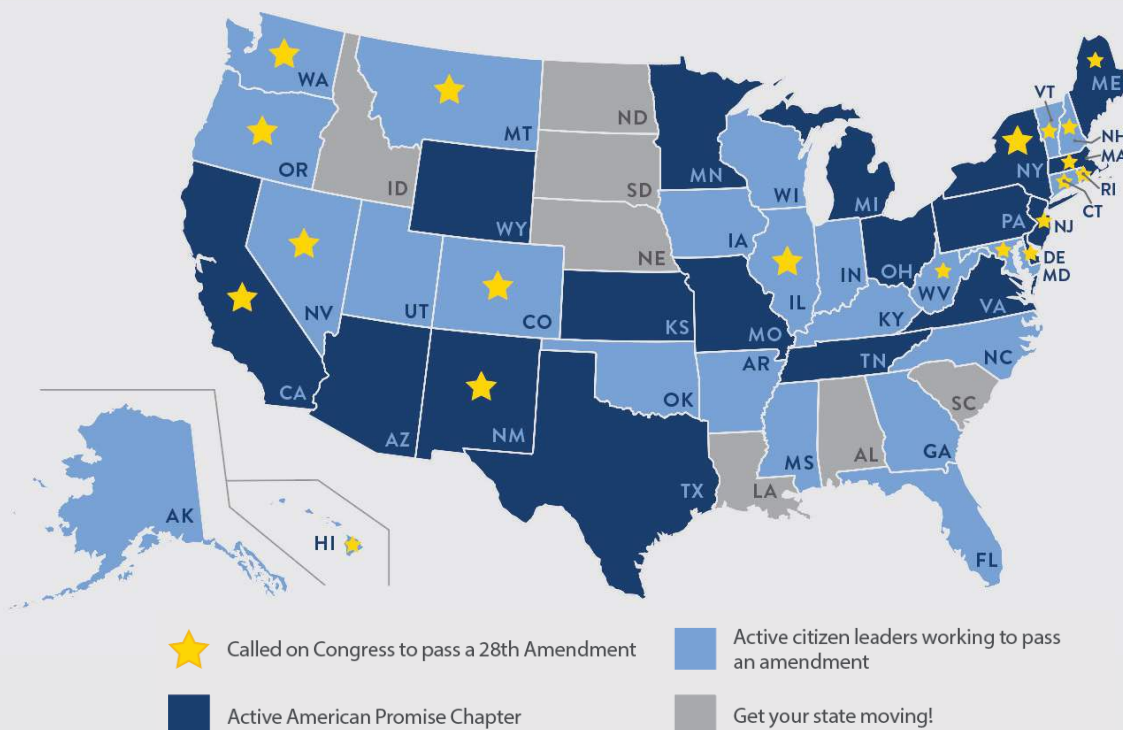
political campaigns. This includes 71% of Republicans and right-leaning independents, and 85% of Democrats.

**Do my constituents care about this issue?** Yes. In the same poll, 74% of the public says it is “very important” that major political donors not have more influence than others. Another 16% say this is “somewhat important.” So far, 20 states and more than 800 cities and towns across America have formally called for the 28th Amendment.

**How many elected officials and candidates have signed the pledge?** More than 200 candidates on both sides of the aisle have signed the American Promise pledge, with more signing every week.

**Who is American Promise?** American Promise is a cross-partisan nonprofit working toward a constitutional amendment to enable limits on campaign contributions. American Promise is part of a national coalition working to get big money out of politics. Some of our partners include The Bridge Alliance, American Constitution Society, Represent.Us, Fix it America, Take Back Our Republic, Common Cause, League of Women Voters and Wolf-PAC, among many others. Altogether our coalition comprises hundreds of thousands of citizens.

## NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN AMERICAN PROMISE



**MILLIONS  
OF AMERICANS**

- 20 STATES
- 800 CITIES & TOWNS
- 75% OF AMERICANS support an amendment to get money out of politics\*
  - » 66% Republicans
  - » 85% Democrats
  - » 70% Independents



**HUNDREDS  
OF SUPPORTERS  
IN CONGRESS**

\*School of Public Policy, University of Maryland, [www.publicconsultation.org](http://www.publicconsultation.org)



## WE SUPPORT YOU

When you sign the American Promise Candidate Pledge, we will provide you with press materials, social media graphics and language to share with your audience. Our community will support you in spreading the word about your support for the 28th Amendment to ensure political power for people, not big money.

Both political parties are complicit, and we need to put a stop to this. The voters are increasingly becoming angry at what's going on, and angry voters make some very bad decisions. —**Richard Painter, George W. Bush Chief White House Ethics Counsel**

In the wake of Supreme Court decisions that equated money with speech, it has become urgent for Congress to do what it can to restore transparency and accountability to the political system. —**Democratic Senator Martin Heinrich**

The Constitution begins “We the people...” not “We the corporations...” There is no more compelling case for a 28th Amendment dismantling corporate hegemony than this 3-word premise upon which our Constitution is based. —**Longtime Republican House Representative Jim Leach**

The overwhelming influence of dark money in politics has made it harder for regular, working people to have a say. I stand with the majority of Americans who want campaign finance reform. —**Ohio House Candidate Alexis Miller**

Lead by example when it comes to taking big money out of politics. I'm running my campaign the old-fashioned way by building a grassroots team of supporters. I will not accept contributions from corporate PACs, and I will fight to overturn Citizens United and bring democracy back to the people. —**Democratic Representative Deb Haaland**

## He signed the pledge.



Due to the influence of money in politics, our public servants spend more time raising money than solving problems.

Joel O'Dorisio  
Candidate for Ohio Senate  
District 2

28th AMENDMENT ADVOCATE



## She signed the pledge.



I have signed the American Promise Candidate Pledge, declaring that I support fair, free elections and limitations on money's influence on our democracy!

Kathy Braatz  
Candidate for County  
Commissioner — Tarrant, TX

28th AMENDMENT ADVOCATE



## He signed the pledge.



I support amending the United States Constitution to secure fair, free elections by limiting the undue influence of money in politics.

Bill Weld  
2020 Presidential Candidate

28th AMENDMENT ADVOCATE

