



CALIFORNIA *Fair* ELECTIONS CAMPAIGN



Proposition 15 Will Help Working Families

Proposition 15, the California Fair Elections Act, will get politicians out of the fundraising game and back to solving California's problems. It will create a pilot project providing voluntary public financing to qualified candidates running for Secretary of State in 2014 and 2018. It pays for itself, with no taxpayer or other public funds needed.

The Big Money Problem: Corporate Spending Dominates

- Corporations outspend unions by up to a 26-1 margin. Working people can't compete with the money of corporations.
- The recent Supreme Court *Citizens United* case allowing unlimited corporate expenditures will unleash the corporate floodgates everywhere, making unions fall even further behind.

The Fair Elections Solution: Money Dominance Out, People Dominance In

- With Fair Elections, candidates get enough public financing to defend themselves against giant corporate expenditures, ending the dominance of big money on politics. 85% of the legislature in Maine and 81% of the legislature in Connecticut was successfully elected with Fair Elections.
- Elections aren't decided by money any more. In 1998, the better-funded candidates won 79% of the Arizona elections. By 2002, with Fair Elections in place, funding disparities were a factor in only 2% of races.
- Member-to-member communications are unaffected. Unions can spend without restriction communicating with their members and getting them out to vote.

Benefits For Labor: A Stronger Connection to Elected Officials and Better Use of Limited Resources

- **Union Locals Provide a More Attractive Forum for Candidates:** Candidates qualify for Fair Elections funding by gathering large numbers of \$5 contributions and signatures. Locals are a perfect place for candidates to reach large number of voters who can help them qualify and then get passionately involved with their campaigns.
- **Fair Elections frees up union dollars for organizing and other union activities:** In Arizona, union money that formerly went to direct candidate contributions is now being spent on organizing efforts, GOTV, and other activities that directly benefit the union and its rank and file, including defending against bad corporate initiatives.
- **When voters and volunteers are the currency of elections instead of big money, working people win.** 63% of likely voters in a recent Lake Research poll said they'd vote for Prop 15. After hearing both positive and negative messages, support rose to 69% of likely voters and 80% of all labor households polled.

Prop 15 Endorsers

- California Nurses Association
- AFSCME
- California Alliance of Retired Americans
- California Labor Federation
- Dolores Huerta, co-founder United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO:

"Today, big money interests decide who can run for office and what issues they can raise. Only full public financing can change that." — Dolores Huerta

"Working people win with Fair Elections financing, because voters and volunteers are the currency of elections instead of big money. That's why the California Labor Fed strongly endorses Proposition 15."

— California Labor Federation Executive Secretary-Treasurer Art Pulaski

www.YesOnProp15.org

Yes on Proposition 15: Californians for Fair Elections, a coalition of nurses and government reform advocates (FPPC ID # 1317706).
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