

On behalf of the League of Women Voters of the United States, I request the opportunity to testify at the upcoming Federal Election Commission (FEC) hearing on this rulemaking and the steps the agency should take ?to address corruption in the political process.?

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Federal Election Commission  
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Washington, DC 20463

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On behalf of the League of Women Voters of the United States, I request the opportunity to testify at the upcoming Federal Election Commission (FEC) hearing on this rulemaking and the steps the agency should take “to address corruption in the political process.”

The 2014 election was the most expensive mid-term election in our history. Super PACs raised and spent more than \$600 million dollars in 2014 to elect candidates who will do their bidding and defeat those who might resist. They were able to do so because they are supposedly “independent” from the candidates, but in reality, there are many ways to coordinate that are not blocked by the FEC’s weak regulations. In addition, millions of dollars of secret money from dark money groups poured into the political system seeking to buy our elected officials and distort our elections.

The League of Women Voters urges you to shine a light on secret money and stop coordinated expenditures by outside groups. As the federal agency in charge of our nation’s campaign finance laws, the FEC has the authority, under existing law, to set disclosure rules and rigorously define “coordination,” but thus far the agency has refused to do so. We urge you to do your duty and enforce the law.

The American voter has a right to know who is funding political campaigns. And the American public has a right to have the law against unlimited coordinated expenditures strictly enforced.

Fair and clean elections, determined by the votes of American citizens, should be at the center of our democracy – not big money from secret sources. As long as dark money groups hide their funders and outside special interest groups can spend unlimited amounts behind the mask of “independent” spending, our democratic principles are at risk.

Submitted by,

Elisabeth MacNamara  
President  
League of Women Voters of the United States