

Advertisements placed on the internet should be held to the same standard as radio, print, and television.

Comments provided by :

Abts, Cara

To Whom It May Concern at the FEC (except me):

PLEASE bring the United States of America into the 21st century! Most of the advertising that we see these days is online. Yet, there's no indication of responsibility or accountability when unsolicited ads appear on our devices. Who pays for the ads? Especially in politically related messages, print sources must reveal this information. Why is it not so online? For the sake of disclosure and reader education, we desperately need unambiguous, enforceable guidelines, especially on sites like Facebook and Twitter. "Transparency" seems to be the new goal in government -- and goodness knows we need it on the internet.

Thank you for your attention.

Comments provided by :
Aldrich, Johnnie

We the people need transparency we need to know where or who sponsored and paid for these adds. Don?t diminish our democracy any further, please strengthen it!

Comments provided by :
Alexander, Jonathan

Extreme groups should not be allowed to shut down opposition to their beliefs. This is what Freedom of Speech is all about, the ability to express an opinion despite the fact that it is politically incorrect or uncomfortable. Why don't you really do your job and crack down on the content shown on TV/cable?? It is outrageous the things teenagers and young people can see, many times it's programming supposedly for young people yet they are showing drug use, gay sex, alcohol use. This should not be allowed.

Comments provided by :
Anchors, Leslie

Ads on the Internet have become common and we need to know who is behind them. They should be required to follow the same sort of disclosure rules that apply to ads in other media.

Comments provided by :
Anderson, Dave

We need to know who is paying for political advertisements. Our system of government depends on information so that voters can make their best choice. Money is destroying our democracy. Knowledge is the best way to keep our government working for the people, not special interests.

Comments provided by :
Anderson, Dorothy

You need to protect our right to free speech!

Comments provided by :
Anderson, Virginia

There **MUST** be strong online disclosure rules that have teeth to deter nefarious forces from taking advantage as has recently happened.

Comments provided by :
Angelli, Terry

Please protect our rights as Americans, protect our free speech.

Comments provided by :
Archibald, Steven

Our Democracy depends on having accurate information instead of propaganda. In order to know if an ad can be trusted, we must know the source of the ad. We must know who paid for it

Comments provided by :
Arconati, Lois

It is your job to protect everyones' right of free speech please do so.

Comments provided by :
Armstrong, Kelli

I got a wake-up call this past election. I always knew that political advertising on radio, TV and print had to state who paid for the ad. I assumed this was the same rule for online ads. I now know how wrong I was.

We must make online ads reveal who is paying for them. It is only fair to have the same rules across all mediums. I know I was horrified by so many of the political ads I saw during the past presidential election. We now know foreign actors were manipulating our elections and our very society. We cannot let this happen again. It is cyber warfare and it is deadly serious.

I strongly support having full disclosure on who is paying for all online ads.

Comments provided by :
Asher, Martha

Transparency is IMPERATIVE no matter what medium is used

Comments provided by :
Atchley, Marsha

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :

Augusto , Keith

n the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information.

Yet our outdated transparency rules ? which still include references to telegrams and typewriters ? don't require adequate disclaimers for online ads.

More than three in four Americans ? 78 percent ? want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms (according to a new Marist poll).

That includes 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents.

I call on the FEC to act immediately to update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them.

Comments provided by :
Baffa, Valerie

As a citizen who takes voting very seriously and believes it is the foundation of our democracy, I was extremely concerned and angered by the interference of Russia in our past election through the use of bots and fake internet accounts. I believe that the outcome of that electoral process was affected and I worry that future elections can also be skewed by hostile governments or factions. I was astounded to learn that ads on-line are not subject to the same disclosure rules that apply to political ads in print or on the air. This is clearly something that must be remedied immediately. I urge you to safe guard our democratic process by requiring that voters know who is behind these internet communications. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Baimas, Philip

We are writing to say, that as voters and consumers, we deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

We need new and additional rules to reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Such information about who is paying for ads are already required for traditional media...but more and more of the advertising we see and hear comes online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. We are increasingly aware that companies do not responsibly and ethically "police" themselves. They make decisions based on profits for owners and shareholders, not on what serves their 'customers.'

Comments provided by :

Baker-Smith, Gerritt and Elizabeth

IT IS TIME FOR A CHANGE. WE DESERVE THE TRUTH. AN HONEST GOVERNMENT. ONLY TRUTHFUL ADS. COMPASSION. KINDNESS. TO BE TREATED EQUALLY. THE 1% CANNOT CONTINUE TO OWN OUR COUNTRY. I AM EMBARRASSED OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR COUNTRY.

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you,
Elisa Ball

Comments provided by :
BALL, Elisa

We should treat on-line like we do all other forms of media. It is important to know who is paying for ads.

Comments provided by :

Balza, John

It's imperative that people have a right to know where the ads they are seeing are coming from. It's obvious when it's a store or product but not so when related to social issues or politics. Requiring a simple disclosure makes sense. It will help us form opinions having all the facts not just partial. Please consider requiring all online ads to have disclosures, it's in the public's best interest. We'll be watching.

Comments provided by :
Bambic, Sean

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Bannister, Julie

We deserve to know who is behind all advertisements posted online.

Comments provided by :
Barclay, Lisa

I am so tired of elected people to think they know how we feel they . Now I am asking the FEC to stop please stop this question about free speech on line to me things have gotten out of control and it's is the people should have that right to speak on line and share our feelings . Please hear our voices and stop this

Comments provided by :
Barlow, Arlene

To the FEC:

I urge you to make new rules providing transparency and full disclosure as to who is behind any and all advertisements on social media.

This is vitally important is we are to create an open and honest democracy.

Sincerely, S.B.

Comments provided by :
Barnhart, S.

Please protect my freedom of speech as a Conservative. I should be able to read & speak my opinion. Who decides? That is my right by God, not you!

Comments provided by :
Barrett, Terri

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Please don't fail the American people.

Sincerely,
Camille Bass

Comments provided by :
Bass, Camille

I strongly support labeling the source of all political campaign spending online. -Ryan

Comments provided by :
Bass, Ryan

Please require that all political ads on digital platforms, i.e., Google, Facebook, Twitter display who paid for them. Advertising works, if it didn't we wouldn't have a multi-billion dollar industry dedicated to it. I, as an American citizen, don't want the Russian government supplying me with political ads. Thank you, Miles Batterson

Comments provided by :
Batterson, Miles

American citizens, voters and taxpayers deserve to know who is paying for troll farm ads and, indeed, ALL ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Transparency rules should be updated and revised to reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century; and it is a proven fact that online ads are increasingly the medium where people view political and other ads. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, but we need the FEC to provide **STRONG** regulations with meaningful punishment that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Beavers, Nancy

Please stop with the over regulations and just let me live. I'm tired of government intrusion stop protecting the Liberals and attacking the conservatives like me I have the First Amendment which allows me free speech stop trying to take it over. thank you write your comment here.

Comments provided by :
becker, Charles

Protect Free Speech Online!

Comments provided by :
BELL, KEVIN

Our rights to free and uncensored speech is under attack.
Please don't let that happen..

Comments provided by :
Bell, Richard

Let's not let a minority rule the majority . Free speech is absolute. We can not let it be invaded by a few misguided zealots who want to control our every thought. Please,keep the status quo. Thank you

Comments provided by :
Bell, Richard

TO THE POINT....WE NEED TO PROTECRT OUR FREE SPEECH ON LINE!!!!!!

Comments provided by :
BEMISH, SHARON

Please write your Please protect free speech for all points of view in America.

Comments provided by :
Bender, Michelle

It is imperative that the FEC create a National Voter System, preferably Mail-In Ballot Programs consistent throughout the country.

Every voter should be thoroughly informed as to how to do online research on each and every candidate so they can make a well-informed decision.

All television and online ads must completely disclose the author and funder of every ad and the FEC should make it its mission to see that every eligible voter is fully informed as to how to discover the author and funder of every ad they might be exposed to.

Strict regulations must be promulgated prohibiting any outside money from purchasing all ads in the U.S., and a tracking method to uncover the source of all purchases.

A daunting task but absolutely crucial for maintaining a stable Democratic System of governance.

Comments provided by :
Berben, Laura

Hello. I am commenting on Internet political ad disclosures.

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Bergstrom, Bo

Please keep our 1st Amendment Right as our founding fathers wanted it, free speech for all without censorship by political correctness and leftists!

Comments provided by :
Bernat, Arnold

Stop the radical left and those wanting to strip anyone who does not support their terrorism from taking away free speech for everyone!

Comments provided by :
Bernat, Arnold

To Whom It May Concern,

We deserve to know who pays for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Linda Bernhardt
bernhardtl@uwplatt.edu

Comments provided by :
Bernhardt, Linda

Please write your comment here. Liberals are trying to take our freedom of speech away from us, and only agreeing to freedom of speech as long as you agree with them. This is not freedom of speech it is fascism!

Comments provided by :
Berntson, Thor

The FCC has enough to do without becoming a "speech cop." Or the "idea police." Please protect First Amendment rights for all parties!

Comments provided by :
Bishop, Duane

Citizens need to easily determine which organizations, persons or governments are paying for the advertisements we see on social media such as Facebook and Twitter.

We have, hopefully, become somewhat immune to the slick political commercials promoted on traditional media. However, advertisements on social media are harder to tune out or even identify as advertisements.

Voluntary efforts by the industry are not enough. Transparency must be mandatory and enforced by regulation.

Comments provided by :
Blackburn, Clayton

Dear FEC people,

I am writing to implore you to make public the source of each and every online political ad; the citizenry deserves to know who is paying for the ads, whether they are straightforward or deceitful. For democracy to work, the populace must have tools that enable them to make considered decisions, and knowing the money source of political ads is an important tool. Thank you. Frances E. Blair

Comments provided by :

Blair, Frances

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced

Comments provided by :
Blair, Julian

I was born in the United States of America, a land founded on free speech for all. I want my voice to be heard whenever and wherever I choose to speak. Why should I have to fight you for what is rightfully mine? How can you tell me what I should or should not say? You don't have that right. You, if you are an American citizen, have the same rights that I do and no other.

Comments provided by :
Blood, Mary

Our Constitution gave us freedom of speech. Nothing has changed our Constitution so don't change our right to free speech.

Comments provided by :
Bonner, Janet

Political ads, regardless of where they are placed, should all be subjected to the same rules and guidelines. The American taxpayers should know who is placing the ads, and it should never be a person or persons acting on behalf of a foreign government.

It is vitally important that social media entities have transparency regarding political ads, just as the TV and print media does. Anyone seeing a political ad should easily be able to determine who placed the ad, and it should be an American person or group.

Further, I feel that it is important that the content of political ads reflect truth and honesty, and not deal in conspiracy theories, lies or innuendo.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Bonnington, Joan

The FEC should be providing regulations for ads that appear on Facebook and Twitter and other platforms. There should be transparency as to who pays for the ads with full disclosure.

Comments provided by :
Borelli, Nancy

Americans deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced

Comments provided by :
Borgeson, Dean

The people deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Bothe, Jocelyn

Right now, liberal FEC bureaucrats are preparing to make an enormous powergrab and regulate Americans' speech online.

Any new regulations would ultimately work to silence our voice and undermine our constitutional rights.

Please don't let these power-hungry bureaucrats get away with it.

Comments provided by :
BOUDREAU, ALICE

I urge the FEC to update and strengthen transparency policies so that citizens know who is paying for ads online, particularly on social media sites. With all of the misinformation and propaganda, including foreign interference with American elections, consumers need to know who is paying for the content we see, so we can better inform ourselves. Leaving companies such as Facebook and Twitter responsible for monitoring their site's content does not do enough to uphold transparency. If the FEC sets up clear regulations, it will go a long way to help us decide whether the information we are seeing is trustworthy. Such policies will be easier to enforce because companies will all be held to the same standard.

Comments provided by :
Brady, Ann

Three actions could bring back a healthy democracy in the US

1. Abolish the electoral college, it is no longer needed as is evidenced by historical accounting for the reason to support it in the first place. If anything, today we have too much public media!
2. Provide neutral metric for creating districts for voting and representation
3. And your part, make advertising transparent and accountable--look at and improve on California's law.

Comments provided by :

Braithwait, Cara Lee

We expect you to protect our Constitution and free speech! There is such a twisted version of free speech. When violence breaks out this is not free speech, it is a crime!

Comments provided by :
Brannan, Ann

Our Free Speech rights are under attack and must be protected both on-line as well as in the public arena. Please support our basic rights to free speech by preventing arbitrary suppression by on-line providers like Facebook, Tweeter and others.

Comments provided by :
Britt, Carl

We need transparency in the purchasers of accounts to twitter and facebook. Those who buy ads should be identified.

Comments provided by :

Brown, Bruce

Please pass laws and/or regulations to require full disclosure of political ads and/or promotions in all electronic media.
We Americans have a right to know who's promoting what.

Comments provided by :
Brown, Jim

I want to know who is paying for online ads, particularly political ones.

Although Facebook says that they will make sure who the money comes from, it would be much better if there were hard and fast rules and regulations in place.

Comments provided by :
Brown-Nesbit, Parker

I believe that in view of the fact that Russia advertised on our internet providers (software and hardware) during and after the 2016 election, it is absolutely necessary to state the origin of the advertisement plainly. I have been frustrated even watching television ads because groups make up fine-sounding names, but if I knew who was behind that "organization" I would be horrified, and I would definitely not believe the content of the advertisement. In other words, I am asking you to have advertisers spell out who is behind every ad. However, short of that, I ask that you bring internet advertising up to at least the standard of current television advertising.

I truly want to know who is behind the shady political commercials that I sometimes am forced to watch if I want to see regular programming.

Comments provided by :
Brown, Robert

The American public deserves to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Brunswick-Bosso, Diana

Please write your comment here. Whether on a soapbox, in a letter, or on the internet, my freedom of speech, even if it offend some one without causing or inciting physical harm, is a precious freedom that must not be compromised.

Comments provided by :
Buckley, Daniel

FREE SPEECH IS FOR 100% OF THE PEAPLE. EQUAL TIME ON INTERNET, ECT. IS ALSO A MUST. THE C
ONSTITUTION IS VERY CLEAR. ANY PHYSICAL ACTION TO INTRFEAR IS PUNISHABLE BY LAW

Comments provided by :
Buckman, John

Americans must have free speech to be able to protect our very way of life!

Comments provided by :
Burge, J.C.

Our democracy is at stake. We deserve to know who is paying for ads on social media such as Facebook and Tweeter. We need to know this in a timely manner, so WE The PEOPLE can decide what is fake news.

Comments provided by :
Burke, Barbara

Please write your comment here. Please protect free speech on the internet. It is a fundamental right which was hard fought for by our forefathers.

Comments provided by :
Burkett, Nicola

Please protect free speech as guaranteed in the Constitution.

Comments provided by :
Burnash, George

Please write your comment here.First Admendment is rights according to the Constitution

Comments provided by :
Burton, Scott

Please write your comment here.

This is America, and we are natural born citizens. So were our parents and grandparents. We live in a country of laws to protect the citizens of a free country, not to put us under the thumb of government, a right fought for by our founding fathers and paid for with their resources and their lives. Our constitutional government GUARANTEES our right to free speech. We will not stand for being silenced.

Comments provided by :
Bush, Valeta

Please don't let the Antifa or anyone else to silence any free speech which is protected by the 1st Amendment. We Wil not country left. Thanks,

Comments provided by :
Bybee, Lewis

It is imperative to protect free speech online.

Please, do the right thing and secure our first amendment rights. Thanks.

Mike Byrne

New Braunfels, TX

Comments provided by :

Byrne, Mike

I ask you to require full disclosure of sponsorship of online ads, especially political ads, because they are intended influence our choices in elections.

To be informed citizens, we must know immediately who is paying for ads on online social media. Sponsors and disclaimers need to be prominent.

The FEC must regulate and enforce such a rule for the benefit of all Americans.

Comments provided by :
Cabot, Victor

Please protect the freedom of speech of Conservative Speakers, and hold true to our first amendment rights to express opinions that people might not agree with.

Comments provided by :
Caldarola, Stephen

I like my wife, Ellen Caldwell, find that it is vastly important to protect our right to know. We are told in television and Radio ads who is sponsoring the ad.

I am writing to say:

1. That, also, we deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.
2. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.
3. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Sincerely,
David Caldwell

Comments provided by :
Caldwell, David

It is vastly important to protect our right to know. We are told in television and Radio ads who is sponsoring the ad. I am writing to say:

1. That, also, we deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.
2. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.
3. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Sincerely,
Ellen Caldwell

Comments provided by :
Caldwell, Ellen

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Our elections, and voting decisions that affect our everyday life are affected by these safeguards. We need transparency to be empowered to make better decisions and be informed of where our information and media is coming from. Please protect and enforce these laws that protect America and our Democracy

Comments provided by :
Camario, Tanya

An eye for an eye. If you're going to allow conservative voices to be hushed, then do must you hush liberals. So, goodbye to CNN, MSNBC, CBS, ABC, NBC, NPR, PBS, NYT, etc,etc. The list goes on and on. Or, just stay out of it. Completely.

Comments provided by :
Cameron, Terry

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter,
with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Please revised transparency rules that should reflect how we communicate
and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

We need the FEC to provide regulations on Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter
that can be actually enforced.

Comments provided by :
Campbell, Allan

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Carlson, Rita

It is important to me that free speech is protected. Please make sure you do. thank you

Comments provided by :
carlson, vickey

Americans deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. We also need to know who authorized the ad - the candidate, the candidate's campaign or a third party.

If the ad buyer is a corporation, we deserve to know precisely where that corporation is registered, if it's privately or publicly held & the type of corporation. If the buyer is a non-for-profit, such as a foundation or think-tank, we deserve to know precisely where it's registered & who funds it. For example, in California, as part of our initiative process, our election information includes the names & affiliations of those presenting arguments for & against the initiatives on the ballot, along with their statements. Ads are no different.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. The rules related to print & television media may not be sufficient for social media.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, but they're in an inherent conflict of interest, since their revenue is tied to both ad acquisition & ad delivery. We need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you for your consideration

Comments provided by :

Carter, Meg

Leave our First Amendment right to Free Speech online alone. We do not want our Free Speech regulated by our own government.

Comments provided by :
Castro, Albert

There must be transparency for online ads. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but the FEC must provide regulations that can actually be enforced, and actually enforce them.

Comments provided by :
Cato, Mary

To Whom It May Concern, Please protect freedom of Speech for the Conservatives as well as the Liberals and Democrats. It was written for ALL of us.
Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Cecil, Martha

Please write your comment here. Free speech is for everyone whether u agree or disagree with my view point. U shall not abridge my 1st constitutional right!

Comments provided by :
Chacon, Dan

Leave free speech alone. If you want to feel like you're doing some good, go after the clintons, obamas, schumers, frankens, and other corrupt democrats for their treasonous actions against this country.

Comments provided by :
Chapman, Norman

It is important that the social media companies such as Facebook, Twitter, etc disclose information as to who is paying for the online ads displayed on their sites, in real time, and without hiding that information or making it difficult to obtain. I believe we need strong online disclosure rules that protect our right to know, instead of relying solely on these social media companies to take voluntary action.

Comments provided by :
Chinn, Mark

It is crucial that the American public know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules are needed that reflect how we communicate and view ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter claim that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but the FEC must provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Christopher, Bruce

I am writing to encourage the FCC to require that sponsors of all advertisements be required to be identified in readable, accurate, direct ways, reflecting the true source of the funding. With increasing reliance on the internet for information, particularly regarding political advertising, it is important in evaluating that advertisement to identify the source of funding.

The matter is further complicated by the fact that many organizations purchasing advertising have ways to disguise the source by using conduit organizations, misleadingly titled organizations, and other means to obscure the major funding sources for the advertisement. The FCC needs to look hard at this issue and develop an effective means to allow the public to understand.

Note that this comment requires that I reveal who I am and that this information is public. If we can reasonably require this, we certainly can find a way to do the same relating to internet advertising.

Comments provided by :
Claiborn, William

U.S. voters, and the American public in general, get more and more of their news and information via social media. In light of the foreign and domestic abuse of social media advertising during the past election cycle it is imperative that we know who is producing and paying for online advertising. Prominent and real time disclosure of this information must be required.

While social media companies are finally admitting the problem and vowing to take voluntary steps to provide this information their belated attention shows that we need the FEC to provide regulations that will be enforced if necessary.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Our democracy depends on your actions.

Comments provided by :
Cloud, Tom

Voters need to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. That is the only way they can evaluate the information in the ad. The transparency rules for the internet should be as strong as the rules for TV ads. More people use the internet for news today than they use TV and so can and are influenced by the internet ads. We need the FEC to provide the necessary regulations that can be enforced to protect our democracy.

Comments provided by :
Clough, Marjorie

Media transparency is vital so that citizen information and decisions can be guided by facts and motives of presenters. Citizens in this 21st Century are largely informed by Social Media as well as by Broadcast Media, and must be able to depend on rules from the FCC for direct, timely identification of payees and sources of advertisements, stipulated by the FCC. New and enhanced FCC rules for transparency need to be subject to enforcement, and need to include stipulations that override ?flash? or undersized displays.

Thank you for your consideration.

Comments provided by :

Coe, Edward

The realization that Russian trolls secretly tainted our political dialog with foreign propaganda is heart-breaking. We need warnings of such attacks.

Comments provided by :
Colborn, Ted

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
COLLINS, CAROL

As a computer internet user I am constantly made aware of the increased number of online ads. Often it's unknown where the ads come from or who is responsible. Transparency is vital in our time of exploding use of online advertising. Please make sure that rules governing internet advertising reflect what is actually happening now and reveal the source of such advertising information.

Thank you for your consideration.

Comments provided by :
Cooke, James

Please protect our free speach on the web.

Comments provided by :
Corder, Curtis

Please regulate the funding of ads on social media platforms, requiring the funding source to be transparent. This is important, given what we're seeing. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Cori, Jasmin

Given the prevalence and ever-increasing use of the Internet as the preferred medium of communication, research, and keeping ourselves abreast of current affairs and matters of public concern, it is of greatest importance that the names of those individuals and organizations who support that medium through advertising be disclosed to all users. As anyone who goes online knows all too well, such advertising is virtually unavoidable as more and more means are devised to force such material on our awareness. Whether we choose to pay attention to this ubiquitous advertising or not, we have the right to know who and what creates and funds it. This should be obvious and indisputable to anyone who believes in a free and open society, in which all members participate equally with special advantage to none.

Comments provided by :
Correia, Edmund

It is essential to the integrity of our democracy that we have complete transparency in political advertising. The world is a different place today, and bad actors are able to act with impunity to influence our country. Gone are the days when voluntary steps that social media may or may not take to guard against abuses will suffice; the FEC needs to provide clear regulations that can actually be enforced ? for whoever is running any kind of advertising. I?m tired of special interests and foreign entities influencing how our country is run, and I think new FEC regulations reflecting the current situation are long past due. Act now to protect our country.

Comments provided by :
Covin, Janet

Protect Free Speech Online!

Comments provided by :
Cullinan, Chris

Resist the pressure from left wing liberals to limit out freedom of speech guaranteed by the first amendment. The left is crazy. We should keep the right to say what we feel like saying. If some people don't want to hear viewpoints other than they're own, they don't have to listen. This is left wing Fascism.

Comments provided by :
Curley, Edward

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you,

Susan Owensby Daguzan

Austin, Texas

Comments provided by :

Daguzan, Susan

Free speech is not a one-way street; you cannot exercise your rights to free speech under the first amendment and then simultaneously strive to silence others because you disagree with their views. We will accomplish nothing in our society until we can respectfully listen to each other and share ideas. It is acceptable to disagree; it is not acceptable to hurl insults and threats at one another. We must also respect that the American people have spoken in their election of their leaders. Respect their voices.

Comments provided by :
Davidson, Dawn

I am concerned about political ads that are of unknown origin. If I donate to a political candidate or organization, I am required to make certain disclosures. It seems perfectly reasonable to me to require the same of any person or organization that is producing political ads, an action specifically designed to influence an election. The public only has so much power to require transparency. We must depend on the FEC to put its power behind requirements to ensure the public is fully informed when they read and choose to believe, or not believe, the content of political ads. I urge you to create and enforce such regulations.

Comments provided by :
Davis, Patricia

Freedom of speech is to be protected at all cost. You can not regulate speech.

Comments provided by :
Dean, Eric

Freedom of speech must be protected everywhere in the U.S.A including online.

Comments provided by :
Dean, Eric

In high school I learned in an English class that not all we read is true and that before believing, one must absolutely consider the source. Everyone consuming news today must learn this lesson.

This is especially important given that very young children are using the internet. Schools need to, but haven't yet fully armed our kids with the needed skills to discern truth from fiction. In fact, everyone must be wary of believing what we read is true.

Comments provided by :

Dean, Sue E.,

Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements?whether it be organizations with ties to Russia or wealthy special interests here at home.

There is strong evidence Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to interfere with the 2016 election. We need to use every lever at our disposal ? including ending secret online political ads ? to prevent that from happening again, and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages.

Our democracy depends on robust, transparent debate. The FEC is the agency charged with making sure campaign finance rules are followed ? they should start working now to require the same level of transparency for online ads as we have for political ads on television.

Comments provided by :
deConge, Danielle

Silencing any speech is wrong. There is plenty of speech that I don't care for but if I don't hear it then I don't know who they are. People will disguise their speech in ways you cannot imagine. Who's to say your speech is correct? Protect all individuals right to speech

Comments provided by :
deemer, bradley

NBC has just reported Putin's son-in-law and state supported banks have a 10% share in Facebook and a 5% share in Twitter. Russian ties to our government and business (ie Commerce Secretary Ross not divesting his Russian interests) are increasingly and alarmingly intertwined.

Historically, regulation lags behind technology and the movement of money and influence peddling. But, we have no time to wait. Russian interests can dangerously demand a quid pro quo for the use of their money.

I ask that you use the regulatory power of your agency to insure transparency of all business deals negotiated with Russia, limit the per cent of Russia's penetration in our economy and limit the spheres of influence that Russian money can buy.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Michele J Dennis

Comments provided by :
Dennis, Michele

Where has common sense gone? How hard is "freedom of speech" to understand?

Comments provided by :

Dewitz, Jim

Internet political ads should include who is paying for them so readers can be aware of biases and measure truthfulness.

Comments provided by :

DiFante, Diane

Just like TV and print, they should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them

Every method at our disposal should be used to prevent unethical and/or foreign meddling in our elections and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages.

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. That is very scary to me!

Our transparency rules are outdated and should be updated to remove references to telegrams and typewriters and updated to include online advertisements.

78 percent of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. That includes 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents.

PLEASE keep the FEC free from politics and keep democracy open and fair!

Comments provided by :
Dils, Karen

Please establish strong regulations requiring all media to disclose the true source of all ads. With other nations working hard to manipulate the U.S. election process with false information we must have transparency.

Thank you.

Key Dismukes

Comments provided by :
Dismukes, Key

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Distefano, Kathy

We have a RIGHT TO KNOW WHO is posting online ads.
Hillary would be President right now if collusion hadn't happened between corrupt trump and Russia.

**The FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements.

**Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads.

**We need to use every lever at our disposal to prevent meddling in our elections from happening again, and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages.

**In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information.

**Our transparency rules are outdated and should be updated to remove references to telegrams and typewriters and updated to include online advertisements.

**78 percent of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. That includes 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents.

Comments provided by :
Dollard, Nancy

It is most important in these times, when more and more people get their information from the Internet, that the FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements.

People need to know who are paying for the political ads -- we have a right to know!!

Comments provided by :
Donaldson, Meredith

Our air waves and federal officials are to serve the people not for profit business. Do the right thing. Ercel Dotson, tax payer and advocate for honest government.

Comments provided by :
Dotson, Ercel

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ONE KNOWS WHO IS PAYING FOR ADS ON THE INTERNET. THE INTERNET IS A MAJOR SOURCE OF NEWS AND IT IS IMPORTANT THAT POLITICAL ADS DO NOT BLEED INTO NEWS SOURCES. SINCE NOT ALL NEWS SOURCES ARE RELIABLE AND MAY HAVE AN AX TO GRIND THEY MAY DO SO BY INCORPORATING DISGUISED ADS INTO THEIR NEWS.

Comments provided by :
Douglas, Norman

Please modernize the rules about campaign ads by requiring online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements. Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements?no matter where the ads appear.

Comments provided by :
Doukas, Martha

Now that so many of us spend a lot of time on-line, much of the advertising we see is there. Unlike on television where any political ads are followed by "this was paid by....", on line there are none of those disclosures (at least as far as I can tell). With all the "fake news" out there now, we deserve to know who is supporting the advertising we view. Especially considering the Russian interference in our last election, and with all the advertising they bought on Facebook and other sites, it is crucial that we know who is paying for these ads.

Thank you for considering my viewpoint.

Sincerely,
Holly Dowling

Comments provided by :
Dowling, Holly

The public deserves to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how people communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you for your consideration.

Comments provided by :
Dubois, Christina

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Comments provided by :
Dukes, Margaret

It is imperative that you protect our online Freedom of speech.

Comments provided by :
Dunlap, Freeman

US citizens have a right to know who is paying for online political ads. Online campaign ads must include disclaimers about who is paying for them, as required for television and print advertisements. Every lever at our disposal must be used to prevent meddling in our elections from happening again, and to ensure that we all know the source of political messages. In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. This country has outdated transparency rules and they must be updated to remove references to telegrams and typewriters and updated to include online advertisements. Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. That includes 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents.

Comments provided by :
Duran, Eve

As American Citizens we deserve the right to know who is paying for advertisements and this is especially true for advertisements on social media websites as they are used more than traditional media outlets in our time.

Comments provided by :
Eisenberg, Peter

I am writing as a private citizen in support of strong online disclosure rules. Over the last year, there have been numerous media accounts as well as investigations into Russian interference with our election results. We have yet to learn the full extent of this interference, but what we do know is certainly a wake-up call. These breaches effectively threaten our trust in election results and to a larger extent, faith in our entire political process as well as the media upon which it depends. If it is true that elections can be bought and sold, at least we deserve to know who is doing it. Public dialogue is increasingly an online phenomenon. At present, the online landscape resembles the Wild West, with little if any, oversight of content or source transparency. Unfortunately, this condition has led to a culture of opinion with no requirement for factual or source references.

Action must be taken now to ensure full transparency in regard to the source and payment for online ads. Sites like Facebook and Twitter must be required to reveal who paid for an ad with online disclaimers in real-time. These social media companies claim voluntary compliance, but as we have seen in the past, the extent and effectiveness of their voluntary actions cannot be verified, nor enforced without government regulation. The FEC must promulgate regulations to enforce and monitor compliance. Without this, there is no "stick" to comply on the part of social media companies or those who submit ads which contain "fake news."

Comments provided by :
Elders, Pam

Rules for transparency should be appropriate for the 21st century internet advertising. We should be able to know who and what organization is sponsoring ads that are shown so that we, the People, have full information. Allow Facebook, Twitter, etc to monitor the advertising but Government , only, has the ability and the weight to fully enforce transparency. The FEC must provide regulations that can be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Elton, Glenn

Last week I watched legal counsel for three social media companies testify before three congressional committees. The superficiality of their response to this clear and present danger to our democracy devastated me. Their testimony may be summarized in three sentences: "We were shocked to learn that our platforms were abused by a foreign government during our 2016 elections. We are really working very hard on this problem. We love the First Amendment."

I urge the FEC to immediately enact regulations: (i) making social media companies responsible for the veracity of what they publish on their platforms (just like every other public media), (ii) requiring social media companies to disclose to the American public (not just congressional committees) all Russia initiated publications made on their platforms in connection with the 2016 election, (iii) requiring social media companies to inform each user of its platforms how that user was exposed to Russia initiated publications in connection with the 2016 election.

A private corporation is not responsible for protecting the integrity of our public forums. That is the government's responsibility. If my government does not take action, our 240 year experiment in self-government is over.

Comments provided by :
Enright, Mary

I hope you will listen to us the citizen who believe in our right of free speech. The left doesn't have the right to try and silence us. This country was founded under conservative principles and we reject the left and their sociologist ideals.

Comments provided by :
Erten, Ilse

One of the most common things we keep hearing from the president is "Fake News". With the information that is coming to light about questionable ads and information being disseminated on Facebook, Twitter and other popular social media sites, we need a clear and simple way to determine who is providing this content, and letting the users know this information. We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Part of the FEC's responsibility is to insure that elections are fair and free from outside interference. Therefore, I feel that it is only fair that the FEC oversee all aspects of the elections, so that we don't have all the uncertainty and innuendo like we have had after last year's election. We need to be able to feel confident that our elections are held to the highest standards that are expected by all Americans.

Comments provided by :
Evans, James

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

I support transparency for online ads. It's time for the FEC to catch up to the 21st century.

Comments provided by :
Eveland, Nicole

There are many strong reasons for the FE C to modernize its regulations. It should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements.

Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads.

We need to use every lever at our disposal to prevent meddling in our elections from happening again, and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages. This would help to stop more Russian sabotage of our democracy.

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information.

Our transparency rules are outdated and should be updated to remove references to telegrams and typewriters and updated to include online advertisements.

78 percent of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. That includes 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents.

With facts like the above supporting modernization, how can you failed to do so?

Comments provided by :
Farthing, Dan

Please respect the constitution. Free speech applies to all sides of a question.

Comments provided by :
Fay, Gerald

Commissioners;

I wish to add my voice for distinct rules to govern political ads in the age of the internet. It is very important that all political ads, whether on television or social media be immediately identified as a paid advertisement and on whose behalf and who had paid for said advertisement. Self policing by the media providers is simply unacceptable. There must be clear rules that must be followed by all providers across all media.

Thank you
Neil Fisher

Comments provided by :
Fisher, Neil

The loudest voices should not be the victors.
Protect our freedom of political and religious speech.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
FitzGerald, Nora

The liberal elite cannot be allowed to control speech. The 1st amendment protects both liberals and conservatives, but if the liberals had their way, conservative speech would be blocked and censored in all media.

The 1st amendment should always protect conservative speech whether it is online or offline, just in the same fashion that it protects liberal speech.

Comments provided by :
flamm, chris

I believe is very important for the public to know who is paying for ads on public media sites, as most people seem to get their information from these sites.

In my opinion a lot of the controversy about the shady ads that affected the 2016 election might have been prevented by effective regulation of these sites. Thank you Tom Flynn

Comments provided by :
Flynn, Tom

Please support our 1st amendment Do Not allow any group based on their own political beliefs to stifle the freedom to speak their own minds on any topic from any other group We live in what is supposed to be a free democracy where all have a God given right to their own opinions

Comments provided by :
Ford, Thomas

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you for your consideration.

Comments provided by :
Fosburgh, Eric

The FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements. Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads.

We need to use every lever at our disposal to prevent meddling in our elections from happening again, and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages.

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. Our transparency rules are outdated and should be updated to remove references to telegrams and typewriters and updated to include online advertisements. Fully 78 percent of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. That includes 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents.

Take the responsibility that has been granted to you seriously.

Comments provided by :
Frank-Bailey, E

F#EC Commissioners,

The current lack of any requirement for the purchasers of political advertising on Internet sites such as Facebook, Google and Twitter to identify themselves is a condition which must be corrected immediately. The fact that agents of the Russian government purchased political ads aimed at subverting the 2016 Presidential Election makes abundantly clear that we, the voters of this great Nation, must know who is advertising to influence our votes. When I see a political ad in the newspaper or on television or hear such advertising on the radio, the purchaser of that ad is required by law to divulge who they are. We deserve the same transparency from political advertising on the Internet. Only when we know who has purchased the ad are we able to determine whether or not to trust in the content of that ad. The Russian government will surely attempt similar interference in our future elections. We must not allow this to happen; and requiring purchasers of Internet political advertising to disclose who they are is not merely necessary, it is imperative.

Thank you for your consideration and prompt action in this matter which is so important in protecting our free and impartial elections.

a concerned Oregon voter,
Michael Frank

Comments provided by :
Frank, Michael

Good morning:

I'm writing about the obvious problem we have on-line, knowing where our information is coming from.

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Please think of your people, NOT big money.

Thank You

Lance Fredricks
concerned citizen

Comments provided by :
Fredricks, Lance

Please protect our First amendment right and vote to protect online free speech now!

Comments provided by :

Frei, Bud

Please vote to protect the constitution and protect online free speech today!

Comments provided by :

Frei, Bud

The FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers that clearly identify who is paying for them, as is already required for television and print advertisements.

Americans have a right to transparency in political spending so we can critically evaluate information and make informed choices when electing our leaders. We need to use every means at our disposal to prevent meddling in our elections from happening again by ensuring that Americans know the source of paid political messages.

Our transparency rules are badly outdated and must be updated to remove references to telegrams and typewriters and instead enforce meaningful regulation on online advertisements. In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. As a result, 78 percent of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms?and that includes 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents. I'm calling on the FEC to enact common-sense updates to our campaign advertising rules that require paid political messages to be clearly identified across all media, with legal consequences for platforms that host advertisements that fail to disclose who paid for them.

Comments provided by :

Fus, Alex

We've seen the ways our enemies can use social media platforms to manipulate the American public. At this point not taking any action would be naive. Social media has proven to be too powerful a tool for foreign governments trying to influence our elections. There needs to be some sort of common sense regulation. We need to know who is paying for political advertisements on social media platforms.

Comments provided by :
Gaborit, Alex

We deserve to know who is paying for online political attack ads. Regulate them the same way you do ads on TV.

Comments provided by :

Gallo, Daniel

I'd like to demand strong online disclosure rules that protect every citizen's right to know.

Citizens deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how citizens communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but voluntary steps cannot be counted on. They may not go far enough; if they are taken voluntarily, then they can be ended at any time.

Instead of these "voluntary" steps, citizens need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :

Gallo, John

As a veteran I am angry at the attempt to silence my right to free speech. It is veterans who put our lives on the line to protect our great country & constitution. While you beurocrats sit back and do nothing to stop the attempts to silence our right to free speech. This must not be allowed to happen, or I ask you what the hell did us veterans fight to protect then?

Comments provided by :
Gardiner, Davy

I think that ads posted on the internet should have the same regulation as other media and be required to post disclaimers as to who is paying for the ad.

Comments provided by :
Garland, Sabrina

I think it is time for the FCC to require all ads on the internet and social media to have transparency. That is, who is paying for them and a link to the sources of the ads. Ads are propaganda and therefore are presenting a bias in what they say therefore one needs to know as much as possible about the source so one can be able to judge the ad and its bias. This is particularly true of political ads.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Garrard, William

Please require on line ads to be publicly visible to all, including requiring who paid for the ads. Thank you.
Steven Gavron

Comments provided by :
Gavron, Steven

To Whom it may concern,

I believe the FEC needs to tighten up on who is paying for these on-line advertisements. We have seen that many people now get their news and information on-line. Therefore they need to know who is behind the plethora of ads. I advocate that the FEC take a stand and regulate these ads by requiring the person or persons who paid for the ad be listed. This would create a true look at who is responsible.

Thanks very much for reading.

Sincerely,

Brooks Geiken

Comments provided by :
Geiken, Brooks

Dear FEC,

Our democracy has been attacked by a foreign power. This is a fact. That initial attack is continuing to sow distrust in our election system, which is the bedrock of our democracy. We must act significantly, immediately and broadly to ensure that Americans have faith in our election systems.

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you for taking my suggestions into consideration.

Sincerely,
Matthew Genaze
Cambridge, MA

Comments provided by :
Genaze, Matthew

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies as well as retailers may say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced, and to which hosts for advertisers can be held accountable. This is a step toward increased transparency in the free market of expression and ideas, an essential component of government by the people.

Comments provided by :
George, Daniel

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. The American people need and deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with real-time, online disclaimers. While social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
George, Jeannette

It all begins with Free Speech. No matter what any of us think or feel about what another person has to say, it is not our freedom to judge their right to say what they feel. Let's keep the internet a part of the great American freedom of speech.

Comments provided by :
Gerstung, Charles

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Gilbert, Camille

It is very clear that the idea of free and fair elections is evaporating before our eyes. Citizens United, Bots commenting on social media, states changing laws to make it harder to vote,....Please do everything in your power to reverse these attacks on our democracy.

Pretty soon it might be too late.

Thank you

William Glatfelter
Westborough MA

Comments provided by :
glatfelter, william

Americans deserve to know who is paying for ads online with online disclaimers, in real time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st century which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide the information to their users, but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Goldman, Mark

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter claim they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. Being that we increasingly communicate and see advertising online, revised transparency rules should reflect that.

Comments provided by :
Grant, Farrah

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Graver, Chuck

It is imperative and a fundamental right that the American public know who is paying for on-line ads. Full transparency should be a requirement just as it is in television ads. Enough is enough!!!

Comments provided by :
Green, Elaine

Please write your comment here.

Please uphold our Constitution and rights for freedom. Of speech.

Comments provided by :

Grimm, Sharon

I am writing in support of treating online ads the same as radio or TV ads.

Thank you for your time,

Ian Grogan

Comments provided by :
Grogan, Ian

I fully support the transparency of online advertisements!

Citizens have the right to know- in REAL TIME- who is paying for the ads and sponsored content being shown to them via online disclaimers. Advertisements can have far and wide-reaching consequences, affecting even democracy itself.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st century, which is increasingly online. It is clear from decades of past behavior that companies- both in general but also specifically social media companies- NEED REGULATIONS THAT CAN BE ENFORCED.

We the people DEMAND strong online disclosure rules!

Comments provided by :
Gullotta, Katharine

If we say we love our Democracy then it is time to do something about our social media. We do not use this tool as we are elderly seniors and get our news from other sources. You must take action to correct this problem because so many citizens use this source and are being misled-all in the name of MONEY. Take action now for those who will come after us and need to know who is paying to call the shots.

Comments provided by :
Gulovsen, M.Laura

We are Americans. Not communist or any other people.
We have always had free speech and pull a trigger to keep it forever.

Comments provided by :
Hackett, kenneth

Free speech is afforded to all Americans. Stop trying to be free speech Nazis!

Comments provided by :
Hagler, Denise

To those who have the power to make a difference:

I think the time has come for we the people to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

It is understandable that the speed of technology has surpassed the regulatory process but now is the time to catch up. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Please step forward to take the steps necessary to enforce transparency in this brave new world where it is so easy to reach millions of people with false and self-interested information posing as fact.

Thank you!

Comments provided by :
Hahn, Margaret

Americans have a right to know who is paying for advertisements, especially political ads. Please help insure we know where ads are coming from. Thanks!

Comments provided by :
Halouska, Linda

Please stand up for all people to have freedom of speech no matter what political affiliation or ideology.

Comments provided by :

Hanes, Tracey

I support the proposal to require disclaimers on all internet/electronic communications, emails, postings, paid ads, or social media posts. This amendment to existing regulations appears to make all communications held to the same transparency standard. Thus, no infringement on right to free speech can be claimed. Thank you

Comments provided by :
Haney, Blair

Dear Sirs:

As a democracy, we the citizens of this great country, deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we in the U.S. communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide government regulations that can actually be enforced. Over and over, corporate "self-regulation" has demonstrated to be an empty promise, a ruse. A complex corporate world requires regulation.

Comments provided by :

Harrison, Lee

It is critical for the FEC to create regulations that guarantee maximal transparency in regard to who is sponsoring content on the internet. The health of our democracy depends on citizens knowing who is paying for the content we consume. Otherwise, "dark money" controls our information, and we all are subject to manipulation.

Comments provided by :
Hayden, Mary

Hello,

As a voting US citizen I strongly urge you to update political ad rules to make sure that people know who paid for online ads, including the real top spenders (i.e. not just shadow orgs). In addition, since political ads can be micro-targeted, the platforms like facebook should also make all political ads available for people to see so we can get see what ads are being run as well as the targeting rules used to run them.

Ideally you should also set up some rules about cracking down on fake political content (i.e. fake posts, fake news shared by fake users, etc...) since that is clearly having a large effect here in the US.

Thank you for helping to protect our democracy.

Sincerely,

Don Hayler

Comments provided by :
Hayler, Don

To maintain our democracy, political funding must be transparent. We, the American people, deserve to know who is paying for political ads. In the 21st century, most people see ads online, and platforms such as Facebook and Twitter need to reveal in real time who is paying for ads we see. The FEC needs to establish regulations to make sure this transparency can be enforced consistently and across the board. Knowing who funders are can help us sort out what "ulterior motives" might be at play.

Thank you.
Sandi Hebley

Comments provided by :
Hebley, Sandi

The public has a right to know the origin of material posted concerning our elections on social media. We have the right to know who pays for that material. It is not enough for social media to volunteer that in future there will be scrutiny of the sources of such political material; there must be laws enacted to insure that no foreign country is Influencing our elections through its use of social media. As it is already illegal for foreign countries and interests to fund ads used in our elections, it follows that legislation to identify foreign entities preferring material on social media to American voters is needed.

Comments provided by :
Hemphill, Patricia Joan

It would be nice to believe that online advertisements are paid for by the manufacturer or organization responsible for the product or message, but we have learned that some Russian entities paid for political and other advertisements on Facebook and elsewhere. This is misleading and can be considered foreign propaganda. We need an organization such as the FEC to create enforceable regulations that require Facebook, Twitter, Google, and other online entities carrying advertisements to carry disclaimers which disclose the actual organization paying for these advertisements.

Comments provided by :
Herndon, Richard

Freedom of speech must be protected, not just speech you agree with. Think how you would feel if YOUR freedom of speech and expression were on the line.

Comments provided by :
Heskett, Eddie

For some unknown reason to me, many, many people get their news from social media sites. Just like as in newspapers, radio and TV, advertisements on social media sites needs to identify themselves as ads and who has paid for the ad. Different medium, but no different rules should apply. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Heyl, Lawrence

Please take measures to promote transparency and accountability in online content when it is used by originators who want to be anonymous. I am not talking about persons offering their opinions. I am concerned about powerful sources of online content that are increasingly using it to deceive and manipulate public opinion and are corrupting our democratic system of government.

Thank you for your consideration.

Comments provided by :
Hicks, Robert

Please enact rules for identifying who is paying for on-line ads. It would provide a measure of safety for the user, and give insight on the motive and legitimacy of the advertiser, which are sometimes sorely lacking in on-line transactions. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Hilles, Leslie

Free speech should be protected from being infringed on.

Comments provided by :
Hillmar, Lynda

PLEASE PROVIDE REGULATIONS SO THAT WE CAN KNOW WHO IS PAYING FOR THE ADS ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

THANK YOU

VERA HILSENATH
STOCKTON, CA

Comments provided by :
Hilsenrath, Vera

We need to know who is paying for on-line political messages. As with printed, TV and radio ads, these ad can provide useful information to voters but a critical part of that information is who's paying for it. This is particularly critical in light of recent information about how the Russian government bought ads to influence our last presidential election. An informed electorate is how democracy works. Fair elections require that people know where their information is coming from.

Thank you for your work to keep our democracy working.

Sue Hilton

Comments provided by :
hilton, sue

The FEC should require online campaign adds to include who is paying for them to help prevent meddling in our elections by foreigners.

Comments provided by :
Hinkle, Carol

I am deeply concerned for this country knowing that anyone from anywhere can place an advertisement to effect our elections. We must know who is behind these ads otherwise our democracy will be and has already been hurt. We cannot leave it to for-profit corporations like twitter and facebook to care, they have already proven that they care about profit over democracy, the very democracy that allowed them their wealth is in peril. Please come up with a clear cut rule with no loopholes that spells out who is behind an ad / statement regarding our elections.

Comments provided by :
Hochberg, Adrienne

I want to know WHO is sponsoring an ad that I may see on Facebook (as well as other media!). Its important to know just WHO is trying to sway my opinion and by knowing WHO is sponsoring an ad, the knowledge of THAT gives me an idea of who's side THEY are on!

I want to know who is paying for an ad...and not just some astroturf group like "Citizens for a concerned...whatever" thats BS.

Comments provided by :
Hodge, Robert

Transparency is critical if democracy is to work. In a democracy no one, not even the President, is more important than anyone else. Social media and the internet have become so pervasive that they must be transparent; we must know who is behind the ads. Thank you for reading and considering my comments.

Comments provided by :
Hodges, Elizabeth

Protect the first amendment! !

Comments provided by :
Hoff, Anna

Any place or activity that is dark or hidden is ripe for crime and abuse. Unfortunately, that is human nature. All people must be held accountable for what they do, especially on powerful information avenues like the internet.

Comments provided by :
Hoff, Michelle

All political ads need to include the buyers' information. This includes ads hidden as "news" articles and videos. The rhetoric coming from American and non-American resources need to include the persons or group posting it to our social media outlets.

Comments provided by :
Hohenfeld, Leslie

Protect free speech online! I hear Left-wing officials calling for banning free speech under the aegis of "hate speech" but hate speech is still protected under the First Amendment, as is all other speech. I expect you to work hard to ensure it remains that way.

Comments provided by :
Homa, Robin

Right now, liberal FEC bureaucrats are preparing to make an enormous powergrab and regulate Americans' speech online.

Any new regulations would ultimately work to silence my voice and undermine my constitutional rights.

Don't let them do it. Support the spirit and letter of the Constitution.

Comments provided by :
Honka, Thomas

I am very concerned about all the news about the Russian influence during the elections. However even if Russians do not infiltrate the news on the internet, I strongly feel that we deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Although they seemingly did not in the past, now caught social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Hoppenbrouwers, Elke

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

We deserve to know who is paying for online ads in order to find out who candidates are really working for, in real-time.

While some social media companies may take voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, FEC regulations are needed because they have the teeth that voluntary guidelines lack.

Comments provided by :
Hornstein, Dave

Transparency in the electoral process is critical to a democracy. It is crucial to know who is funding political advertisements. We have regulations for this (to some extent) for traditional advertising venues. Many people now get their news and advertising online, however. It is thus important to make sure that political advertising in this domain is also transparent, with real-time online disclaimers provided alongside online advertising. This is too important to our democracy to allow tech companies to manage it themselves, so the FEC must provide regulations to enforce transparency.

Comments provided by :
Houlette, Ryan

Please write your comment here.

Please protect our free speech in America. That is our last glimmer of hope for the American People of the United States of America...

Comments provided by :

Howard, Jane

Please protect free speech on Line! Social media is trying to also Censor free speech!

Comments provided by :
huckleby, Carolyn

Please write your comment here.Free-speech has to be protected especially online.

Comments provided by :
Hudson, Barbara

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter with online disclosures in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users; but, we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Huff, Darren

Please write your comment here.

Why do the left get to say anything they want but the right can not

Comments provided by :

hughes, stephanie

FEC and urge them to protect your first amendment rights today.

Comments provided by :
Hundley, AK

FEC and urge them to protect your first amendment rights today.

Comments provided by :
Hundley, AK

FEC and urge them to protect your first amendment rights today.

Comments provided by :
Hundley, AK

Dear Commissioners:

Our democracy is far too important to be left vulnerable to propagandists on the internet, especially since it's the primary source of news for so many.

We have been tightening the disclosure rules for other types of media for years, each time with overwhelming public support. Right now, polling shows that about 80% of the public across the political spectrum wants to know who sponsors political ads. And we want to know who REALLY sponsors them, not the name of some front group that only exists to hide the truth.

Individual citizens do not have the time or resources to research who is behind these political ads. We're counting on you to create rules that will protect our democracy.

Sincerely,
Lesley Hunt

Comments provided by :
Hunt, Lesley

Please protect free speech right now!!!

Comments provided by :
Hunter, Jeffrey

I am shocked and dismayed to know that foreign governments can publish false, misleading, and prejudicial commentary with the help of Google, Facebook, Twitter, and other online resources without admitting responsibility. The effect this behavior is having on elections not only in the U.S. but all over the world, is serious enough to be alarming.

I think every advertisement online ought to be accompanied by a full disclosure of its source in print large enough to be easily read. This goes for all forms of advertising and opinion pieces as well.

Free speech is not free. It requires diligence from all of us to make sure we are not being misled by those who would corrupt the truth. Our government is here to serve us and protect us not just from violent enemies, but also from the less obvious risks to our freedom.

Only the professionals at the FEC can manage the task ahead of us. I hope you will find the means to uncover malign sources and preserve freedom of information for all of us.

Comments provided by :
Hurd, Janet

Please stop this all out attack on free speech against conservatives. It is unAmerican and the American people won't stand for this tyranny by the radical left any longer. We The People are waking up to this extreme assault on our individual freedoms.

Comments provided by :
Hurlebsus, Jeanne

Take note, when it comes to FOS and the 1st amend, we cannot fail to be to vigilant, the enemies of free speech are many and they are all over the world..We the People do not need or want those enemies here to gain a foot hold....

Comments provided by :
HYAK, LARRY

The people of the United States deserve to know who is advertising to them and require real-time online disclaimers to this end. Revised transparency regulations need to be enforceable and directly applicable to current modes of communication. Your actions and inactions regarding this and all related concerns have been, are being and will be remembered by all of us who will live in the world that you are shaping with your decisions right now, in addition to being a matter of public record. We are all on it together.

Comments provided by :
Inabinet, Sam

A recent Marist poll found that more than three in four Americans ? 78 percent ? want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. That includes 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents.

The FEC should act immediately to put forward updated regulations that require online campaign ads to include disclaimers letting people know who is funding them, just like television and print ads.

Kathryn (Katie) Irmeler
White Plains, NY 10605

Comments provided by :
Irmeler, Kathryn

Please support enhanced internet advertisement disclaimers.

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you

Comments provided by :
Irwin, Allen

Is it really true that you are trying to deny First Amendment rights to those whose political views you do not favor? It seems other organizations are already doing this, and I would be stunned and upset if FEC is joining such groups in a like manner.

Comments provided by :
Iseri, Martin

Are you partisan?

If so, I don't think that is your job and not the appropriate stance to take.

Let the American people decide how they see President Trump, his followers, and their policy preferences.

Comments provided by :

Iseri, Martin

The FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements.

The last presidential campaign should have taught us a good lesson.

Comments provided by :

Iskra, Sheila

The way information is disseminated in the 21st century is instantaneous and can spread so quickly as to have dramatic consequences. It's vital that we know the source of this information and be able to make informed decisions about what may or may not be the truth.

What possible reason could the FEC have in keeping the public as informed as possible? It's time to regulate social media outlets like Facebook. They have proven that they are not only incapable of self-regulation, but are also unwilling to impact their bottom line even though it may be at the cost of our democracy. The FEC has a responsibility to protect individuals from big corporations who think they are above the law.

Comments provided by :
Jahos, Ellen

Dear FEC,

I and many other Americans are increasingly concerned about the influence of online ads and online statements on the political process. Ads are indeed a form of free speech, but we would like to advocate for greater transparency as to who pays for the ads. This year the public is learning that Russia bought hundreds or thousands of ads on social media and that they were viewed by over one hundred million Americans, many of whom went on to vote. Just as television ads must be endorsed by an organization or candidate before they are aired, the same must be required by the FEC for internet ads or public announcements.

In essence:

1. We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.
2. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.
- 3, Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you for your time.

Comments provided by :
Jamil, Kaifi

The people of the United States deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

You need to change the transparency rules to regarding the way we communicate and see ads, which is increasingly online. It is what you can do to insure the real time disclaimers happen.

Are you really expecting Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter to voluntarily provide this information to their users - you, the FEC need fo do your job and provide regulations that can actually be enforced!

Comments provided by :
Jay , Patty

It cannot be denied that our nation is in a cyberwar with nations who intend to do us harm. My husband and I are dismayed that hostile foreign entities can buy advertisements on social media websites and promote disinformation and election meddling. We must pass something such as rules of behavior for the social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Google, etc. that will thwart these attacks. We must have transparency! We must know when ads are from foreign enemy states! Volunteer actions by the internet/media sights may be insufficient and there should be some type of assessed penalty for either not stopping this nefarious activity or not making the source totally transparent. Please stop this cyber warfare on our Election Systems!

Comments provided by :
Jayson, Patricia

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide identifying information to their users about who is buying the ads we all see online, but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Now more than ever, it's important to know who is buying our time and attention.

Comments provided by :
Jefferson, Leyte

Please require open disclosure of the entity/ies, or people who are responsible for election ads on Internet media, such as: Facebook and Twitter.

Respectfully yours,
Robert Jensen

Comments provided by :
Jensen, Robert

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. History shows us that private companies like these cannot be relied on consistently to enforce high standards absent government regulation.

Comments provided by :
Johnson, Lauren

We need to know who is paying for these ads just like we need it for TV ads. The only honest alternative is to admit free speech has failed and ban political ads outright.

Comments provided by :
Johnson, Matthew

In addition to requiring that the source and payor for each political ad be disclosed, it would be ideal to require the truth and that allegations and claims be substantiated with facts. Thank you, Chris Jones

Comments provided by :
Jones, Christine

WE ARE JUST SO TIRED OF THE MSM WHORES AND SOCIAL MEDIA DENYING US OUR RIGHTS AS REAL AMERICANS AND DEMAND THEY BE FINED AND/OR JAILED ACCORDINGLY? WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SUE SOCIAL MEDIA WHEN THEY MARGINALIZE OUR OPINIONS AS WELL?

Comments provided by :
JONES, MARLENE

Don't regulate internet speech.

Comments provided by :
Jones, Pam

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced; rules that are equal and the same across the board.

Comments provided by :
Kade, Rowen

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Comments provided by :
Kast, Michael

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :

Katz, Sara

Please Protect Christian & Conservative Speech Online!!!

Comments provided by :
Kaufman, Robert

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter should disclose who is paying for ads, just as political ads on TV have such disclosures. Voluntary compliance is insufficient; Facebook, for example, could easily have known about the Russian ads to influence the 2016 election, so their promise to do better rings hollow.

Comments provided by :
Kaufmann, Matt

In accordance with the Constitution of the United States, First Amendment we are guaranteed Free Speech regardless is it offends anyone. Protect individual speech.

Comments provided by :
Kauwell, Kathryn

We need to know who is paying for advertising on social media. Our democracy is being stolen by billionaires. Their outsized voices need to be regulated as they are drowning the rest of us out.

Comments provided by :
Keenan , James

No matter if it's organizations with ties to Russia or wealthy special interests at home, Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads.

More than three in four Americans ? 78 percent ? want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms.

I demand that the FEC require online ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them.

Comments provided by :
Keenan, Marjory

Free speech should always be protected, no matter the cost involved.

Comments provided by :
Keller, Drew

It is absolutely insane that I have to take the time to point out to FEC the importance of full disclosure on all monies being spent on political campaigns, attack ads, etc. It is also beyond pathetic that campaign finance reform has yet to be passed to end the reign of corporate whores in DC. Obviously, none of you deserve your jobs for failing miserably at getting money out of politics so we may one day actually achieve fair and democratic elections. Although the final nail went into the coffin of Democracy when SCOTUS gave us Citizens United...everyday is another opportunity to END the BS. Do your job or find another so maybe we have a chance of ending the corruption. This world is a temporary one, and ALL of you will be held accountable in next for your abuse of power and failure to do good works.

Comments provided by :
Kelly, Theresa

regulate Americans' speech online.

Any new regulations regarding speech online would ultimately work to silence my voice and undermine my constitutional rights.

Please don't let that happen. Please protect online free speech

Comments provided by :
Kendrick, Charles

The American public needs to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers that are easily read, not fine print! Many people look at these ads and believe that they are all legitimate. Some believe EVERYTHING that is on the internet is true!! So yes, "buyer beware" is the caution. However when it comes to our National and State Elections, the People MUST be assured that these ads are coming from legitimate, American sources!

Revised transparency rules MUST reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users. The FEC MUST provide regulations that can actually be enforced, and then enforce them when necessary!! We do NOT need another election that appears rigged or influenced by ANY foreign power or person/s who happen to HAVE A LOT OF \$\$\$\$\$\$ to make them hidden from the process!

Comments provided by :
Kepner, Susan

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

"Voluntary" disclosure is simply not enough nor will it suffice.

Comments provided by :
Kimball, Larry

We need more transparency in where internet ads are coming from. I want to be aware of who is trying to influence me.

Comments provided by :

Kimble, Margaret

We need transparency as to who is providing funding for political advertising on social media. We need enforceable regulations, as social media will not police itself. It seems rather ironic, with the existence of the Citizens United decision, although, there's a distinction between political pacs and social media.

Comments provided by :
Kinzler, Ron

Our campaign finance system is broken and it is bringing the nation down. Numerous issues (climate change, food labeling, gun safety, immigration reform, prison reform, education reform, short-term lending regulation, healthcare reform, banking regulation, opioid regulation) remain vexing problems primarily due to corporations' ability to curry favor with elected officials. The corrupting influence of money in our political system is undermining our democratic traditions and discouraging Americans from voting and/or running for office. This ominous development may well end our experiment in representative democracy unless we alter this decades-long trend. For the sake of the republic, we must amend the US Constitution to state that corporations are not people (and do not have constitutional rights) and money is not speech (and thus can be regulated by state and/or federal campaign finance laws). Short of accomplishing this, no other reform of significance will be achieved. The moneyed interests will turn any reform to their benefit, often at the expense of the nation as a whole.

Comments provided by :
Klein, James

For television ads, full disclosure of who is paying for the ad has been required for years. In the 21st century, the same must be required for online ads, with disclaimers given in real time. The FEC must issue enforceable regulations for this. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Klein, Melanie

Please protect free speech.

Comments provided by :
Klein, W

The public deserves to know who pays for ads on sites like Twitter and Facebook via online disclaimers. It is not enough for social media companies to do this voluntarily. The FEC needs to provide enforceable regulations that reflect the status of present day communications.

Comments provided by :
Kozloff, Linda

As citizens more and more turn to the Internet for their news source, it is imperative that a disclaimer as to the source and the funds for this information also be made available. Just as television and print sources have long been required to inform the viewer, in light of the ongoing probe of the past election, this discloser should extend to computer sources as well.

Comments provided by :
Kramer, Darlene

I am concerned about the false material circulated on social media, which many Americans accept as fact. This truly false news can affect elections and contribute towards the failure of our democracy. The FEC should require Facebook and others to monitor the truth/origins of what they publish.

Comments provided by :
Kramer, Susan

In addition to names and State/Country origin of advertisement sponsors for internet advertising, the total expenditure for a particular advertisement should be shown in the source notification section for the advertisement. This would alert the reader that BIG MONEY is being used to sponsor such a statement. This would allow the reader to consider their willingness to accept the information as biased or not.

Comments provided by :
Krege, Julie

Freedom of information and understanding who is controlling a message is essential to our democracy and fair elections. The electorate needs to, and has the right to, know who is behind all advertisements and messaging regardless of the forum used to communicate.

Thank you,
Jeanne Krise

Comments provided by :
Krise , Jeanne

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

This would be a step closer to having free and fair elections, which this country hasn't had in many decades.

Comments provided by :

Kronheim, David

Protect my constitutional right to free speech online!

Comments provided by :
Kurtz, Janice

It is time to revise transparency rules in view of our increasing communication--and ad exposure--via social networks. We have every right to see who paid for ads we see as we use networks such as Facebook and Twitter. We need online disclaimers, in real time, so we are aware of those who are behind the ads. This helps us discern whether or not we should pay attention to the ad. Recently, ads on our social networks affected thousands if not millions of users because these users did not know that they were Russian sponsored. This should not be happening in today's world, via today's sophisticated internet.

Even though Facebook, Twitter, and other social networks claim they can and will voluntarily provide this information to viewers, we know from past experience that we cannot necessarily trust them to do so as completely as they should. We need the FEC to set rules for them and for any new networks that start up. Then these rules can be enforced.

For our public's safety, we need new transparency rules that include disclaimers. Please follow through with this.

Comments provided by :
Kussart, Carol

GET WITH THE TIMES! We are all computer literate and do not want any sites pulling illicit shenanigans! REVEAL WHO IS BEHIND ANY ADS THAT THE SITES ARE RECEIVING REMUNERATION FROM!!

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time!

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online!

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but WE NEED the FEC to PROVIDE REGULATIONS that can actually be ENFORCED!!!!!!

Comments provided by :
Laakaniemi, Karen

Please protect our constitutional right to free speech!

Comments provided by :
Lauzon-Chesher, Sharon

Free Speech is almost all we have left. Civil Rights are at the foundation of all that is the USA, so wherever there is an opportunity to voice Free Speech, protect it!

Comments provided by :
Lea, Susan

The FEC has an important role to play in regulating online ads and who is paying for them.

Please protect our elections, our democracy, and our country from foreign purchases of online ads. Today I learned that Russia funded significant investments in Facebook and Twitter to the tune of 10% and 5% respectively. Seriously, the questions have been raised and need to be addressed by the FEC.

Comments provided by :

leigh, lynda

An informed populace needs to know what persons or entities are paying for the ads they see online.

Comments provided by :

LeSage , Kathryn

you must stand and protect our constitutional rights to freedom of speech!

Comments provided by :
Liles, Brandon

Dear FEC,

I write you as a retired RN from north Texas. I believe, that as an on-line Internet user that I deserve complete transparency for online ads. Honestly, I don't trust most ads because of their lack of transparency.....regardless of subject.

I deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like FB with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in this century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like FB say they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to those like myself, but I need you the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced!

I am aware of to many friends, who are gullible to false and biased advertising that is untrue, false, and fake because they don't know how or take the time to research issues beyond a supposed friend or celebrity name recognition. This is dangerous to our country.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Lindsay

Comments provided by :

Lindsay, Kathryn

Dear FEC: I am writing because our current laws regarding advertisements for election campaigns are no longer able to meet the needs of the electorate. Campaign ads on the internet and social media (Facebook, Twitter etc) need to provide information about who the ad was funded by so that people can realize that this is an advertisement, rather than news, and so that they can use what they know about the source of the funding to discern their own understanding about validity, believability etc, and try to make an informed choice. We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. It is not enough that social media companies be allowed to set their own standards and take voluntary steps to change their policies. We need legislation so that regulations and policies are consistent across the nation and so that the laws can be enforced and companies who break the laws can be held accountable. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ann Connell Lipkin

Comments provided by :
Lipkin, Ann

? We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

? Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

? Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :

Lively, Pamela

Dear Commissioners,

We should not be subject to anonymous ads on social media sites. Facebook testified last week that 126 million Americans saw ads during the 2016 presidential campaign bought by Russian government-linked agencies or front groups with no hint of who had paid for them. They were meant to influence voting and were apparently successful.

Social media companies say that they are taking voluntary steps to tell users who is paying, in real time, but the FEC needs to provide enforceable regulations. There must be online disclaimers and revised transparency rules covering online ads, as Internet communication comes to dominate our public sources of information.

With concern,
Brodie Lockard

Comments provided by :
Lockard , Brodie

What has happened to free speech for both sides? I have an expectation that your organization is to help uphold these rights and not take sides against those who dont hold the same views. This country is unique beyond compare and it is because of the rights we are given in our Constitution, Declaration of Independence. Pls continue to make free speech for all a priority. Thank you

Comments provided by :
Lomax, Linda

Free speech applies to all citizens of the US. You can not pick and choose.

Comments provided by :
Lusk, James

As social media grows in importance as a primary source of news for many citizens of the US, it is time to apply the practices of our older types of media regarding the sources of information presented to the public. With newspaper articles, there are by-lines and newspaper publishers, the same with magazines, with radio and television we know ads that are commercials and political ads are all sourced. The same should be true of social media, especially because it was brazenly used on a grand scale by the Russians (directed by Putin himself) to influence our 2016 election. Requiring that ads be sourced may be just the first step in countering the Russians and other countries that are not our friends, but it is a necessary step.

Comments provided by :
Lynn, Warren

It is time to stop the silencing of free speech on college campuses. What is happening is shocking.

Comments provided by :

Mabry, Kay

I and all Americans deserve to know who is paying for ads on public sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers that are made in real-time. Since the majority of adults use online sources to communicate and receive news, we need transparency rules that are updated to reflect this usage.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. Please work towards this end, as it can only help citizens believe in what we've voted!

Comments provided by :
Mach, Susan

Please use all legal methods to stop online
bias against free conservative speech!

Thank you,

Comments provided by :
Maddux, Les

Please uphold the constitutional right to freedom of speech by avoiding any regulation of speech online.

Comments provided by :
Malneritch, Aileen

Enact REG 2011-02 Internet Communication Disclaimers. We deserve to immediately know who is paying for ads on internet sites. It is a matter of information in our democracy. We should not be a society of secrets, but one of open access to information for reasoned decisions. The transparency rules should show how we see ads that are becoming more and more shown online. Internet companies indicate that they are taking voluntary steps to provide advertisement information to users - but we this could change at any time, and all media companies are not bound by these unenforceable steps. Not all Internet companies are indicating voluntary advertiser information. If Internet companies will truly provide advertiser information, they should not object to your enforceable regulation unless they plan workarounds or change their expressed intent in the future. The public needs the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. The public deserves your common sense action for full information on Internet advertisements. Thank you in advance for your common sense action for full Internet advertisement information.

Comments provided by :
Manley III, David

Stop the censorship

Comments provided by :
Mara, Paul

Do not infringe on our freedom of speech. We don't need our communications monitored by you.

Comments provided by :
Marriott, Carolyn

Do not regulate on line speech. The government has no right to determine what is correct and incorrect speech! The FEC will only try to silence CONSERVATIVE voices not liberal democrat agendas!

Comments provided by :
Marshall, Kim

Free speech is what made America great! If you fight against free speech, you are fighting against yourself!
Protect your free speech!

Comments provided by :
Martin, James

herPROTECT FREE SPEECH!

Comments provided by :
Martin, Mary

FEC:

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank You, John Martinez

Comments provided by :
martinez, john

I urge you to require ALL political advertising to identify who is paying for the service.

Also, require that the identification be in language and print that is readable!!!!!!!

Thank you. from a concerned citizen,
Harriet Mathis

Comments provided by :
Mathis, Harriet

I think that all citizens should have the right to know who is originating or sponsoring any political speech that is posted in any public place, no matter whether it is on tv, in the newspaper, in a letter, or anywhere on the internet. I understand that at the present time the internet is exempt from any law or regulation regarding political advertising, but I think that it should be regarded the same as any other form of communication and have disclosure requirements, especially since it has been so widely used by all sorts of political bodies and even governments (Russia etc.).

The internet is turning into a very powerful conduit for information and we should take note of this and take action to preserve the citizens' right to know!

I am talking about political speech by governments, agencies, organizations, and such bodies, NOT about individual speech.

Comments provided by :

Mathis, James

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Mattison, Jennifer

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a (tax-paying) citizen of this country whose father faithfully served this country his entire professional life, I feel that we citizens deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

I hope that we can have faith in the integrity of the FCC and it's duty to serve and protect the PUBLIC welfare.

Thank you,
Sandra Maura

Comments provided by :
Maura, Sandra

The American public deserves to know who is paying for online ads.

I urge the FEC to provide enforceable regulations with regard to disclosing who is paying for any advertisement in any media including social online media.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :

McCallister, Lisa

We, the people, absolutely have a right to know who is paying for political ads placed on Facebook, Twitter, Google, etc. If these ads are supposed to influence us, we, who are not sheep to be led to a slaughter, have a right to know who is trying to influence us.

Comments provided by :
McC Campbell, R

Stop attempting to SILENCE Freedom of Speech. This is a basic right belonging to every American. Remember this you and I have the right to disagree BUT I WILL DEFEND TO THE DEATH the right to say it. Look up author.

Comments provided by :
McCauley, Michele

When Free Speech is muzzled by the government the Constitution of the United States is attacked. No longer is any citizen free. Ladies, gentlemen are you turning this country into NAZI Germany? Individuals who value freedom especially those putting their lives on the front lines fighting for those in other countries dying to live in this country must feel betrayed. Stop this NOW!

Comments provided by :
McCauley, Michele

The constitution says what it means and i will not sit by and let this crap to happen.

Comments provided by :
McCormack, Steven

All users must be protected.

Comments provided by :
McCuen, Annie

I am writing to ask for transparency in advertising. When I view sites such as Facebook and Twitter I want and deserve to know who/what is paying for the advertising.

As we set new regulations for the ever more pervasive digital age we must have in place effective transparency rules governing disclaimers and the source of each ad.

As Facebook and the other companies create a process for doing these things it IS and WILL Be the responsibility of the FEC to truly enforce them.

Please adhere to these goals in the public interest in the future.

Thank you very much.

Comments provided by :
McCullough, David

In the 21st century, the internet is replacing not just duplicating other forms of formal communication, TV, Radio, magazines, newspapers, etc. As such it must disclose to the same stringent requirements just who is posting ads. This includes e-mails, social media (Facebook et. al.), websites, etc.

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Don't let the American people down. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
McHenry, Sue

Methods of communication have significantly changed with the Internet and Social Media. Your transparency rules need to be revised to reflect current communication and provide online transparency as to who is purchasing advertising with online disclaimers in real time. We need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
McMearty, Kathy

I am requesting that all ads for political office and candidates show clearly (and for at least the length of the ad) the name of the person or party paying for the ad.

In the case where this is a PAC or other hidden payor that payor must be named. This may be a group of persons, a political party, or other entities which must be shown in detail for at least 15 seconds at the end of the ad.

Thank you for your consideration

Jerry McNamara

Comments provided by :
McNamara, Jerry

Please protect the freedom of speech online

Comments provided by :
McRae, Erin

In order to be a properly informed voter, it is necessary to know WHO is sponsoring political ads, from which we can hopefully deduce why. Hiding behind benign-sounding non-profit names is the way DARK MONEY is taking over our democracy, and this MUST BE STOPPED. Shining the light on the ACTUAL funders of adds will go a long way to save this nation from becoming an oligarchy instead of a government "of the people, by the people, and FOR THE PEOPLE", not just for the top 1%.

Comments provided by :
Meckler, Deborah

There has been a huge change in the way we get our ads and publicity with the internet. The FEC rules need to reflect this momentous change. It isn't enough that the private purveyors are attempting to address this issue; it needs to be a federal statement so that the playing field is fair and level.

I WANT to know who is paying for the ad I receive on the internet. How else will I know when Russia is flooding the internet with dubious ads to interfere with our election, as in this 2016 election?

FEC, take the correct and just action NOW.

Comments provided by :
Meinhardt, Lynn

We, citizens, should, at the very least, know who is propagating ad content. That would give us some way of validating the message or telling if it might be just propaganda. The opacity of anonymous sponsored ads lets the loudest and or the most well presented content overwhelm any sense of either falseness or truth or motive for that content.

Comments provided by :
Meyer, Douglas

It is in the interest of all Americans that we have full disclosure & transparency for all political ads. This would include television, radio, newspapers, magazines, personal mail, internet & social media. We should also complete transparency on who is sponsoring any political meetings & protest marches that would be advertised in. This would help restore confidence in our election system.

It would be really nice but probably impossible information in these ads could be fact checked and have consequences for placing ads with false information

Comments provided by :
Miesner, Kristine

I am deeply concerned about the influence of foreign governments and undisclosed political action committees on our electoral process. Therefore, social media sites should be totally transparent about all paid posts and they should make it clear which organization (or individual) has paid for an advertisement and the country of its origin by stating that clearly on the advertisement.

Comments provided by :
Miller, Janet

I want my 1st Amendment rights of free speech protected when I am online.

Comments provided by :
Mininger, Richi

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Mitchell, Ruby

I demand that conservative American citizen First Amendment rights be protected

Comments provided by :
monroe, michael

As an American citizen I take the task of voting very seriously and expect the FEC to ensure I have all the information necessary to make an informed decision. While the 1st Amendment may insure free speech, I do not recall any wording that shields their identity or possible bias. When a voter views an advertisement they should instantly be aware of who the source is and be able to decide if they consider the source credible. At the very least knowing who has placed a political ad would permit the voters to investigate whether they consider this a valid advertisement or not. The FEC must set in place enforceable regulations which prevent the voters from being deceived when exercising the decision to cast their vote.

Comments provided by :
Mooney, Glenn

Political advertising on social media is threatening the very fabric of our democracy. We cannot allow fake people and organizations, especially those representing foreign hostile interests, to ever again influence the course of our elections. Google, Facebook, Twitter and all social media platforms should be required to 1) Label all political ads with the source of funding for the ad. 2) Authenticate all people and organizations who post information on social media feeds. No fake accounts should be tolerated.

Voluntary steps by influential, huge technology companies are not enough. We need strong regulations enforced by the FEC to protect democracy.

Comments provided by :
Moore, Merry Ann

We have a right to know who is paying for ads on social media with online disclaimers in real time.

The need is greater now in the 21st century as so much communication is online, particularly in social media.

Despite claims by social media that they are taking steps voluntarily, we need the FEC to enact regulations that can be enforced by law.

Comments provided by :
Moore, Thomas E.

Please protect my right to free speech Online.

Comments provided by :
Mora, Diane

Please protect online free speech.

Comments provided by :
Morris, Charles

Please protect free speech online.

Comments provided by :
Morris, Charles

I do not want my 1st Amendment rights online curtailed in any way, shape or form. This is the new venue for free speech and you are to keep your hands off of it and protect my rights at EVERY turn.

Comments provided by :
Morrison, Gary

Life freedoms are the basic premises the USA was founded on and must be protected at all costs. To do otherwise will destroy us.

Comments provided by :
Morton, Carlene

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Moser, Paul

Please do not limit my freedom of speech on line, that is guaranteed me under the first amendment. Discussion and debate of ideas gives us our best and brightest ideas.

Comments provided by :
Mounts, Robert

Free speech is for everyone not just for the radical left.

Comments provided by :
Mundell, Kathy

To whom it may concern:

Here in the 21st century, 'social media' distributes as much news as the print and broadcast media. Therefore, in light of what happened in our elections in 2016, it is essential that entities such as Facebook and Twitter be required to disclose who is sponsoring the election related 'advertising' that they are putting out to the general public. It is not an undue burden to them, anymore than it is to print and broadcasters. This is just common sense, and they need to follow the same regulations.

respectfully submitted
David Musal

Comments provided by :
Musal, David

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :

Near, Lori

the first amendment is just as important as the 2nd amendment, not to be infringed upon. Sort of simple even for snowflakes with not back bone. The Constitution is a wonder, even Obama could not totally undo it. So don't you mess with it.

Comments provided by :
Nelson, Don

Considering what we are learning about Russian interference in our last election, and we know they will continue this assault, for the sake of our Democracy, we must have the availability to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. There must be FCC guidelines established that will force all forms of communications to provide us with this information about adds.

Comments provided by :
Nelson, Herbert

Free speech means just that, free speech. It may not always be nice but it must remain free.

Comments provided by :
Nelson, Jim

It is important to provide transparency for all online ads and all online articles. The public needs to know who is paying for ads or articles on the internet. This info needs to be available at the time the ad/article is viewed.

Comments provided by :
Nicholson , Robin

Do NOT silence conservative voices. Please protect 1st amendment rights!

Comments provided by :
Nishi, M

Dear Administrator,

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time, right on the same website. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising now, today. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but I need enforceable regulations.

Best Regards,
Joel

Comments provided by :
Nista, Joel

A benefit of democracy is open communication. Advertising is definitely communication and knowing who is attempting to communicate to sway opinion is imperative. To be an informed voter we MUST know the base responsible for the origin of propaganda, not just some made up to look good cover title.

Comments provided by :

Noble, Barbara

No matter if it's organizations with ties to Russia or wealthy special interests at home, Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads. The Russian government used Facebook and social media platforms to interfere with the 2016 election.

We need to use every lever at our disposal ? including ending secret online political ads ? to prevent that from happening again, and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages.

The FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers as to who is paying for them ? just like is done for television and print advertisements.

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. Yet our outdated transparency rules ? which still include references to telegrams and typewriters ? don't require adequate disclaimers for online ads.

The FEC should require online ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them.

A recent Marist poll found that more than three in four Americans ? 78 percent ? want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. That includes 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents.

The FEC should act immediately to put forward updated regulations that require online campaign ads to include disclaimers letting people know who is funding them, just like television and print ads.

RS Noda
Kensington, CA 94707

Comments provided by :
Noda, RS

To the FEC:

The world has changed with and revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century.

We can't trust Facebook and Twitter to take voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. Please create strong online disclosure rules that protect our right to know.

Sincerely,
Mary-Frances O'Connor

Comments provided by :
O'Connor, Mary-Frances

Political advertising regulations need to be brought up to date with modern communications media. We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Paid advertisements are no longer limited to radio and television, and the internet and social media should not be dark areas where foreign entities or radical PACs can spread misinformation.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter claim to be taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, but they have already stated that "newsworthiness" outweighs the importance of factual information. They cannot be trusted to self-regulate. We need the FEC to provide regulations that will actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Olcott, Lori

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Olcott, Neil

Please write your comment here.[we](#) [We All need to protect our freedom of speech](#) [Daily](#)

Comments provided by :
oliver, Syl

Protect online free speech now.

Comments provided by :
Ollanketo, David

Protect my freedom of speech on line. I vote very single election and will make sure my choices reflect my opinions, thus my duly elected legislators must guarantee appointees reflect the will of the people.

Comments provided by :
Onge, James

I believe that I should be able to know who is paying for advertising on public media outlets, including social media. The ads are effective, or no one would be paying for and using them. Transparency is necessary to have a functioning democracy. Allowing for anonymous posting of information facilitates deceptive advertising, which can range from twisting of the facts to outright propaganda. The end result is warping or misrepresenting the will of the public as they react and respond to false information. Its wrong . Do require full disclosure of all components of paid advertising, who, where and paid for by who and with all sources of financing publically stated.

Respectfully,

Mark Ordway

Comments provided by :

Ordway, Mark

Online political ads need to disclose who is paying for them just like tv ads. This would not be burdensome to the service provider or the advertiser. The FEC should make this mandatory.

Comments provided by :
Oreol, David

It is astounding that a foreign government, such as Russia, is able to buy political ads and post fake information on social media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter. It is imperative for the American people to know who is paying for political ads and for fake news to be regulated. While social media companies say they will voluntarily take steps to provide transparent information to users, we need the FEC to provide enforceable regulations and a means to monitor both content and the source of financial support.

Comments provided by :
Oversier, Anne

I urge you to protect our first amendment right to free speech and stop the suppression of conservative voices that are being attacked viciously and without warrant.

Thank you,

Comments provided by :

Owen, Richard

We need to know who is paying for ads on facebook and twitter, etc.

Comments provided by :
OWENS, BEVERLEY

It is imperative that Americans know who is paying for online ads. To many Americans are being duped by foreign interests who bombard the internet with false information without revealing who they are. We have a right to know who is paying for the ads that are placed on the internet. Please enact enforceable rules for social media companies to follow to ensure transparency in online advertising.

Comments provided by :
Padgett, Linda

I believe we have all begun to see the power of social media. It seems very clear that we need some immediate enforceable regulations to ensure users are aware who is putting ads and/or information out there. Even that will not prevent the dissemination of misinformation, but it might help.

Comments provided by :

Page, Sarah

Dear FEC Commissioners,

I am concerned that ads on the Internet purchased by foreign governments might be influencing elections in the U.S. Whether or not this is true, I think the FEC should regulate the purchase of internet ads so that regular citizens are fully informed about who is buying them. Communication and advertising are changing, and the FEC should do its part to ensure transparency for the American public.

Thank you for taking action on this matter.

Sincerely,
Jan Pappas
Aiea, Hawaii

Comments provided by :
Pappas, Janet

Hello there -

I am writing this date to state that I believe we deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real time.

All of this needs to be more transparent and in order for that to happen, we will need you, the FEC, to provide regulations that can be enforced to this end.

Thank you kindly for your consideration of my comments.

-Pat Pardun
Marine on St. Croix

Comments provided by :
Pardun, Patricia

First of all I am explaining,now the time is scientific without internet communications World can not move forward because whole the whole world depends upon internet communications.We have more advantages than disadvantages.If our communications systems is going in to black mail we can hurts by black mailers or Russians Hackers because now this is the major problem in US in these days. This is my personal experience from my daily routine activities and happened every day.

Comments provided by :
Parhar, Pawiter

Support democracy with an informed electorate. The FEC should have transparency rules consistent with the 21st century that allow Americans know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. And we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Parsley, Adina

In a democracy one person one vote. In capitalism one dollar equals one vote. In order to sustain democracy every person has a right to know the name of each person and each person in each company and country that is paying for any and all advertisements and communications of any kind with regard to each and every person running for office and every issue that may be voted on by the public.

Comments provided by :

Parsons, June

I am very concerned about the current attacks on free speech! I am writing to urge you to protect free speech in the marketplace, online, in schools - everywhere! - and protect the free press - even if they are making up news! If they outright lie, they can be sued for libel, but DO NOT CENSOR THE PRESS!!!

Comments provided by :
Partee, Rosanne

We deserve to know who is paying for ads, with online disclaimers, in real time, much like we already do for ads on television and radio.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we see advertising and communicate in the 21st century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say they are voluntarily taking steps to provide this information to their users, but I think we need the FEC to provide regulations that can be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Patten, Robin

Please enact ruling and regulations to the effect of forcing Facebook, Twitter, and other social media sources to disclose the sources for funding for advertisements related in any way to political campaigns or legislation. The recent Paradise Papers document leak has indicated that there are potentially known Russian money laundering sources pouring funds into these social media companies, and this information must be disclosed if we wish to ensure an objective, fair, and transparent environment surrounding elections and voting matters. Please ensure that this information must be disclosed to for the general public's perusal. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Peasley, Austin

This is the United States where Free Speech is allowed. And Online Free Speech is in that category too. This is not Nazi Germany!!!!

Comments provided by :
Perron, JoAnn

the Constitution of these United States is what makes us unique in this world and as individuals we have the right to speak our mind (conviction) right or wrong and let everyone decide the truth, our 1st Amendment shall not be infringed upon, on line or otherwise. Protect it to protect us all. Fear will not prevail.

Comments provided by :
PERSONS, JERRY

Leave my first amendment rights alone or we will focus more on your attempts to reduce them. And we will win.

Comments provided by :
Petitt, George

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Pfersich, John

Just like television and radio political ads, any political related ads on internet sites should come with online disclaimers. Many of us communicate via the internet. This information source must also abide by the rules of the older modes of information.

Just having the few companies such as Facebook or Twitter agree to voluntary disclaimers will not stop all the other internet "news sources" from hiding the source of the ads.

Comments provided by :
Phillips, Trudy

I think that the FEC should require that all on-line ads reveal who is paying for the ad.

Comments provided by :
Plourde, Robert

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Podboy, Patricia

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Port, M

Leave the internet as is!

Comments provided by :
Porter, Jimmie

Companies, like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google (along with their myriad subsidiaries) and many other companies have morphed from their humble beginnings in a garage somewhere, as social media companies offering an online space where people could communicate with each other into information dissemination hubs where they have taken it upon themselves to, carefully and with astoundingly thorough targeting, feed news and information to their users. As such, they are no longer the uninvolved provider of a social site, but are now actively deciding what particular individuals will receive by way of news and information and they need to be regulated just as newspapers and magazines, television and radio stations are in regards to the sourcing of the advertising they deliver to their users and transparently disclosing to their users who, exactly, is telling them what and giving their users the information they need to accurately evaluate the information they are having rammed down their throats.

Comments provided by :
Post, Robert

I am writing today to express my opinion that the FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them, similar to what is required for television and print advertisements.

I believe that all Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads. Providing full disclosure to the American voting public is important to prevent meddling in our elections from happening again, and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages.

Our current transparency rules are outdated and should be updated to remove references to telegrams and typewriters and updated to include online advertisements.

Sincerely,

James Pozzetta

Comments provided by :
Pozzetta, James

I want greater transparency in campaign ads. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. Americans have a right to know who is paying!

Comments provided by :
Prairie, Annemarie

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :

price, allen

Please write to us, we have freedom of speech guaranteed by our constitution. Keep that in mind! Write your comment here.

Comments provided by :
Price, Annette

Freedom of speech should be protected whether you are talking or writing, in person or online or on the phone!.

Comments provided by :
Priest, Kathy

This government has descended to a new level of cruelty, irresponsibility and social meanness. We must stop this Fascist government takeover of our Democracy. We must also get corporate money out of politics. Stop the bribery now.

Comments provided by :
Puaoi, Richard

I am emailing and asking the FEC to protect online free speech right now. This is our God given right!
Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Rainey, Esther

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Please consider the following concerns I have:

- 1) the public deserves to know who is paying for ads on the internet. Just as we do on TV & radio. These should include online, realtime disclaimers.
- 2) Please revise transparency rules to reflect how people communicate in 2017.
- 3) The FEC should provide internet sires with specific regulations, that can and will be enforced if violated or ignored. Facebook and Twitter should be held accountable for any violations.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Comments provided by :
Ramsey, Ph.D., Patricia

Please write your comment here.FEC, please pursue a fair policy of free speech, our first amendment right, on the internet.

Many of my friends and agencies with whom I have an association are being censored.

Free speech for all.

Comments provided by :

Ramsey, Lucie

Please stop trying to tear and pick our american constitutional rights apart .

Comments provided by :
Rapp, George

On-line political ads should be subject to the same disclosure rules as any other ads. If an advertisement or other paid communication serves any political purpose, the public should know who is paying for it. This information is needed in order to judge the trustworthiness and intent of the material in the ad. It should be included in the paid communication, in clearly understandable form. This should be true regardless of what medium the ad/paid communication appears in - in print, on air, or on-line. The same rules should apply in all cases, because the public needs the information in all cases. The medium used to disseminate the ad is irrelevant - it has no effect on the public's need to know. All paid political communications should be required to follow the same disclosure rules, which should be stringent.

Comments provided by :
Rappolt, George

We deserve to know who is paying for on-line ads in real time.

The FCC can provide rules governing on-line ads which can then be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Reber, Sandy

OUR CONSTITUTION GIVES US THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF SPEECH. ALL SPEECH. EVEN DISGUSTING EVIL SPEECH. THAT IS WHAT FREEDOM OF SPEECH MEANS. NOT SPEECH WE LIKE, OR SPEECH WE AGREE WITH, BUT ALL SPEECH. DO NOTHING TO TAKE THAT AWAY. WE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL NOT STAND FOR IT. LEAVE OUR RIGHTS ALONE.

Comments provided by :
REDDEN, JUDITH

We must have transparency in our elections and be able to identify information from hostile countries. Fair elections are one of the primary foundations of a democracy, and we cannot allow them to be rigged. We must investigate Russian influence into our 2016 election, and restore our system in a way that cannot be used to influence subsequent elections illegally. This is a must!

Comments provided by :
Reed, Michele

To whom it may concern:

I am writing as a concerned citizen. There is a clear and urgent need for all Internet users to know who has paid for any advertisement running in an online space. This information should be immediately accessible and easy to find. To that end, I urge the FEC to issue revised transparency rules that reflect how we now communicate and engage with advertising, both largely (although not exclusively) online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Sincerely,
Christopher Orev Reiger

Comments provided by :
Reiger, Christopher Orev

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

We deserve access to a free and open internet where all sites and traffic are treated equally.

Comments provided by :
Remmert, Ashlyn

Why is it that it seems you only want to take free speech from conservatives? The liberals can say any vile, despicable thing and get away it and if a conservative says **WRONG!**, it's time to censor...this is what's truly wrong!

Comments provided by :
Reveal, Norma

HELLO WE NEED FREE SPEACH NOW ALSO OK SOO PLEASE DOO THIS RIGHT NOW ALSO OK

Comments provided by :
rice, geri

To the FEC:

The condition of our electoral system is a disgrace. The fact that millions are disenfranchised by gerrymandering; that many voters have little faith in the integrity of the voting machines and systems themselves (going back to the "hanging chad" nightmare of the 2000 election), and the fact that a foreign entity (Russia) could influence our election the way it did in 2016, all point to the fact that we need an electoral system overhaul that results in a fair system in which all eligible voters can vote, and which is effectively hardened against hacking, miscounts, and outside influence.

Much about the United States is great, but far too much about who we are, and how we conduct ourselves, fails to live up to our highest aspirations. The quality of our democracy has been compromised by the exigencies of capitalism and corporate influence, and has been undermined by partisan politics and greed. Dark money in our politics must stop if there is any hope that this democracy will survive.

Comments provided by :
Rigney, Matt

Please: protect free speech online. Now! Thank you

Comments provided by :
Rinehart, Diane

The majority of Americans want The FEC to require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements.

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. Therefore, we deserve to know the sources of our information.

Comments provided by :
Roberts, Carol

olease support the right of free speech for all Americans, and help bring a stop to the thug antifa hooligans that are attempting to hijack any form of protest or rally that advocates any conservative ideals

Comments provided by :
Roberts, Jeffery

Please do not restrict free speech online. The very fact you are considering ways to regulate online speech makes me ask, "What part of the first amendment do you not understand?" Opposing ideas is vital to a free republic. The opportunity to express ideas challenges individuals to think through topics instead of just swallowing whatever is spoon fed to them.

Comments provided by :
Roberts, Sharon

As more Americans get the bulk of their news and information online, it is critical that we know who is paying for election ads online, just as is already done for traditional media like television. Even if some social media companies provide this information voluntarily, we need the FEC to provide enforceable regulations.

Comments provided by :
Robinson, Trevor

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. It would make a huge difference if you backed this up. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Rocha, Nes

It is absolutely vital to our election process that EVERY political ad have a clear disclaimer as to who bought and paid for it! TV, print, and radio ads are required to have this, and there is no reason to except social media from this requirement. Many people get all their news information from social media, and obviously there were false ads from Russia that impacted the last presidential election. We must solve this problem, our very democratic way of life is at stake. The social media platforms will try to avoid having to meet this requirement, but don't let them off the hook! They can and must do it.

Comments provided by :
Rodriguez , Susan

It is imperative that the public know who is paying for political ads. I urged the adoption of the CA Disclose Act and it was recently signed into law. Whether foreign or domestic, the public must know who is wanting their precious vote.

Require ALL political advertising, whether on radio, TV or internet to identify the entity that paid for the ad in type font large enough to read easily.

Comments provided by :
Rogers, Connie

In view of

1. documented warning by a FEC commissioner prior to the 2016 election that social media platforms were vulnerable to illegal funding of political ads and should fall under FEC rules (<https://qz.com/1076964/this-us-official-warned-about-russia-using-the-internet-to-skew-us-elections-years-ago-she-got-death-threats>)
2. documented meddling in the US presidential election of 2016 and other elections by foreign governments and individuals, including anonymous facebook profiles and ads from Russian nationals or groups tied to the Russian government violating the foreign nationals clause and demonstrating the weakness of application of the 1971 law to current technologies (<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/02/technology/facebook-russia-ads-.html>);
3. Google and Facebook advocacy that federal law regulating identification of political communications intended to support one or another candidate for a political office not apply to social media, and
4. research indicating that the majority of Americans in 2016 and 2017 receive their news through social media platforms (http://assets.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/13/2016/05/PJ_2016.05.26_social-media-and-news_FINAL-1.pdf; http://assets.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/13/2017/09/13163032/PJ_17.08.23_socialMediaUpdate_FINAL.pdf)

the FEC must currently and in future enforce the law requiring disclosure of source of paid political communications in all electronic forms of public communication, including all social media platforms. This should include penalties for acceptance of paid ads that target and boost delivery of content covered by the 1971 law from foreign social media profiles in violation of the law and candidate endorsement and disclaimers for all social media profiles used by organizations to influence elections as per the law.

It is time to define all forms of electronic/on-line public communication as public communication and to adhere to the same standards as broadcast, print and radio communications do for attempts to influence elections. To do otherwise would appear to be a violation of the law and the public trust.

Thank you for accepting this comment.

Comments provided by :
Rose, Vivien

Please write your comment here.

Some People are trying to erode 1st Admenate rights. We Americans are guaranteed free speech. Just because people have a newer way to communicate ie:cell etc. Doesn't mean limititating usage of this way of doing so. What would have happened if long ago the telegraph was put on limits?

Comments provided by :

Rowe, Elizabeth

As a citizen by birth, a registered voter and working women I deserve to know where each as every political add comes from, who pays for it and who wrote it. This allows me the information to make the decision based on my ethics and view points and not some twisted false fact, or lie of manure fro some whacko or corporation looking for special favors.

Comments provided by :

Roys, Louise

PleaseCongress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. write your comment here.

Comments provided by :
Rubottom, Thomas

Free SPeacH is a 1st Amendment Right regardless of the medium or media.

Hillary Clinton lost becaues she was a terrible candidate and We the People were fed up with the Obama like rhetoric, more taxes. less service, lower wages (well for us not in the US Gov), health care either too expensive or even non existant.

Comments provided by :
Russell, Monte

Please do not promulgate rules that interfere with free speech.

Comments provided by :

Ryan, Paul

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Sadowsky, Richard

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time, PERIOD.

Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users. Voluntary steps are not enough. We need the FEC to provide regulations that are enforceable.

Comments provided by :
Salinas, Julius

I am disturbed by the fact that our election was so obviously affected by outside parties. Companies like Facebook and Twitter have been egregiously responsible for the spread of disinformation and should be held accountable. The FEC needs to have some heft when it comes to enforcing regulations surrounding social networking. Companies' sweet promises that they will do better are not enough. We need new transparency rules regarding online ads and we need to be able to see who actually pays for them. We should have this information readily available as opposed to necessitating a letter or other inquiry. People absorb too much data to be able to do proper research in such an archaic fashion.

In a democracy, it is imperative for the people to be active and informed. Can you blame them for not participating when they know that they are deceived and diverted so much of the time? People are suspicious of the very tenets of our system at this point. As an American, I am asking that you please consider the important role that social networking plays in our elections. It is not Grampa blasting weekly racist emails anymore - this is systematic, emotional garbage on a minute by minute basis that is being fed to the public at large. Not all these people have the capacity to understand how they are being manipulated. We need structure and enforcement to ensure that foreign interference is NEVER again a possibility in our sacred elections process. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Sanchez, Seraluna

The internet and social media are a game changer and have a huge impact on our world which is just beginning to be understood.

Who is paying for the ads we see on these platforms? Manipulation of the masses is the current issue. Knowing who is behind the ads we see makes a huge difference in how they influence us.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but IMHO thats as long as it doesn't hit their pocketbook.

We desperately need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced so massive manipulation such as what happened in our last election does not happen again.

Thank you

Comments provided by :
Sands, Peggy

Please write your comment here. The United States government should not impose any new regulation that would stifle free speech on the internet. Any new regulations should be discouraged in the same manner that they are discouraged and reduced in other aspects of the citizens life.

Comments provided by :
Sappington, Donald

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you for considering my comment.

Comments provided by :
Savage, Edward

We are hearing some disturbing facts about ads used to mislead citizens. Please carefully consider your role in making sure citizens are aware of the identity of those posting on social media such as Facebook and Twitter. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Schell, Joy

If the online advertisers are not doing anything inappropriate or horrible, then they should have no problem disclosing who is funding the ads. It is only if they know that they are defrauding and misleading the public when they won't disclose who is sponsoring the ads. FEC disclosure and transparency is needed on online ads. Do your job on behalf of the American people and our democracy.

Comments provided by :
scherp, angelica

Please protect our free speech online! Stop the left liberal thugs who have an agenda! Let's make America Great again!!
Not some 3rd world cesspool!!!

Comments provided by :
Schneider, Liz

Please write your comment here.

I expect you to protect my first amendment rights.

Comments provided by :
Schram, Jean

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
scott, thursby

Just like any traditional media, social media should provide accurate information on the source of political advertisements. People need to be able to know who is behind the ads they see on these platforms. Regulation can provide the common framework for all platforms, which in turn makes it easier for the public to understand the nuances of what they're viewing.

Comments provided by :
Sebesta, Duane

Enough Is Enough, Protect Free Speech Now.

Comments provided by :
Sensenbrenner, Mary

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. Yet our outdated transparency rules, which still include references to telegrams and typewriters, don't require adequate disclosure for online ads.

Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements?whether it be organizations with ties to Russia or wealthy special interests here at home.

There is strong evidence Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to interfere with the 2016 election. We need to use every lever at our disposal ? including ending secret online political ads ? to prevent that from happening again, and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages.

Thank you

Comments provided by :
Serafini, Sean

The clandestine moves on social media by Russia to sway public opinion and consequently manipulate elections is a frightening attack on our democracy. Please institute enforceable rules for social media so that we can see who has purchased the online adds in real time. We can not rely on private industry to police themselves...too much is at stake!

Comments provided by :
SESPICO, BARB

Dear Sirs,

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on social media sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. They have been quite reluctant to share information and to police their sites.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Shaw, Bob

Citizens need to know WHO is giving information to them. This will be the case in newspapers, in TV ads, and by public figures. But there seems no guarantee for online "information". How can one judge the accuracy, truth and bias of the teller if that is unknown? Facebook and Twitter blast us with information that we cannot necessarily trust.

I am a college professor. In that capacity I try to educate my students to NOT trust any online resource unless they know it is verifiable and from a reliable source. But my students are often misled. And, these are the people who should know better, whom we advise! What about the others ...

We need a source such as the FEC to provide and enforce regulations that everyone can rely on.

Comments provided by :
Shaw, Nancy

In the 2016 election, 65% of Americans identified the Internet or an online platform as their leading source of information. There is no rational reason to exclude any single type of advertising from the FCC's common-sense disclosure requirements, especially one with as much influence as online advertisements.

Additionally, there is strong evidence that Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to influence the 2016 election. U.S. citizens have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements, whether it be organizations with ties to Russia or special interests here at home. Keeping this information concealed only fosters deceptive practices.

Comments provided by :
Shefter, Bret

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.
Make it so!!!

Comments provided by :
sheggeby, stan

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Comments provided by :
Sher, Bret

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Shook, Philip

I have deep and significant concerns about our election process. Just to name a few:

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. It is revolting that we cannot be knowledgeable about the content that is invading our media.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. The old rules do not apply. We simply must update.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

The time for this is now! The time for this was several years ago. I HAVE A RIGHT to know what is going on.

Thank you for your time.

Comments provided by :
Shotwell, Andi

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st century, which is increasingly on line

Comments provided by :
Sivulich, Lenore

Please modernize the rules about campaign ads by requiring online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements. In the 2016 election, 65% of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information, but as we have learned, many of the ads Americans saw were actually purchased by Russians who wanted to influence our elections. We need to use every possible means at our disposal to prevent meddling in our elections from happening again and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages. And this is a bipartisan issue: most Americans (78%) want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. That includes 80% of Republicans and 82% of Independents. It is time for rules about campaign ads to reflect the realities and communication methods of the 21st century. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Six, Sheri

Stop the assault on our 1st amendment rights to free speech. Our constitution guarantees our right to say what we believe in every format and situation. Some times the truth hurts, but you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free. Don't you dare try to turn us into a police state where the truth can't be heard.

Comments provided by :
Sloat, David

To not take the broadest position for the rights of all American citizens to vote is to participate as a right-winged voter Suppressor agency, which is NOT your role. You have a duty to ensure one person one vote and every vote counted. You should help VoteRiders.org to get ID information to every state that has passed draconian legislation consistent with Jim Crow laws.

STOP, HELP, DESIST BEING A VOTE SUPPRESSION AGENCY.

Comments provided by :
Smith, Alice

We have to know who is paying for ads on Facebook and Twitter at the time we see those ads. That's the only way to verify advertisers are not lying to make money.

After Facebook got caught selling ads targeting people interested in "How to burn Jews," it would be insane to allow them to take voluntary steps to be truthful. They have already caved to the dangerously violent in exchange for money.

We need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Smith, Dea

Whatever rules regarding disclosure and standards apply to traditional television broadcasters should apply to any other platform for paid advertisements to the public. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users but that's not good enough for traditional advertising media so why should it be acceptable for digital platforms? We need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. The public has to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. And whatever standards for veracity apply to television broadcasters should apply to digital platforms.

Comments provided by :
Smith, Indira

No trying to take away our first amendment rights. Get out of our lives and let this country achieve its great potential. Unleash the american dream.

Comments provided by :
Smith, Thomas

Please protect all speech, online and everywhere.

Comments provided by :
Solomon, Janelle

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of "We the people." We are the everyday US citizens who elect and should be controlling OUR country and political officials and for whom the US Constitution was ultimately created. We are done with the super wealthy and corrupt individuals and corporations stealing OUR power and running OUR country from behind the scenes. We will no longer sit by and allow those responsible for the complete dismantling of our constitution and government and the precise, self-preserving targeting of our political system to not be held accountable. OUR country needs to be and should be controlled by "we the people." There needs to be perfectly clear accountability for ALL actions taken by ALL individuals and ALL companies, of any size when they are involved in politics. Whether it is running for a political office or providing monetary or non-monetary support to ANY and ALL positions in the government.

We are tired of being led like sheep through our lives while the super wealthy and their "in pocket" government officials steal from us and commit acts of complete and utter greed and self-wealth and power embetterment.

We DEMAND oversight into what happens behind the closed doors of politics and the funding of said politics. There NEEDS to be new oversight committees made up of, everyday US citizens who will have complete control and vision of who, what, when and where ALL aspects of government financing are coming from and going to.

We will not shove our heads in the sand like ostriches anymore. Fix this system now or there will no doubt be severe consequences in the coming future of our country's power structure.

On behalf of "we the people."

Sincerely,

Vincent South

Comments provided by :

South, Vincent

FEC

Sunday, Nov. 5 2017

I urge the FEC to regularly regulate the transparency of on-line advertisement to provide a feedback mechanism for the general population to see who is paying for this advertising. Without it, we are being duped. There are millions of people who literally don't realize who's behind these social media covert campaigns. Secret money doesn't work in a truly democratic process. Require compliance of disclosure of ad sales over some minimum dollar amount.

Thank you
Scott Species
Seattle WA

Comments provided by :
Species, Scott

When ads are posted, many of us do not take the time to read the whole ad in detail, We do not often know if it is true or false, and who wrote/posted it, which would tell many of us why we should believe the ad or not.

Comments provided by :
Spencer, Amy

Protect the first amendment always.

Comments provided by :
Spencer, Dennis

Information on all ads placed anywhere should include information on who placed the ads.

Comments provided by :
Spieckerman, Stephen

I'M PERSONALLY OKAY WITH MY INTERNET USE BEING MONITORED; HOWEVER, THERE MUST BE TRANSPARENCY IN ANY BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT. THIS INCLUDES NEWSPAPER ADS, RADIO SPOTS, INTERNET, HANDOUTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON THE DOOR TO DOOR BASIS WHETHER OR NOT THAT PERSON IS HOME TO RECEIVE THE HANDOUT. AS AMERICANS, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO KNOW ANYTHING INVOLVING THE GOVERNMENT OR GOVERNMENT ACTIONS. THOSE THAT ARE AGAINST TRANSPARENCY WHEN IT COMES TO THOSE THINGS MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO HIDE. THAT IS ALWAYS HOW AMERICANS WILL FEEL; THE GOVERNMENT AND ANY CANDIDATES MUST BE HIDING SOMETHING. DO THE RIGHT THING AND MAKE POLITICAL DONORS SHOW WHO AND WHERE THEIR MONEY IS COMING FROM. WE AS AMERICANS HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Comments provided by :
SPRINGER, DIXIE

It is important to the openness and transparency of our democracy that the FEC require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements. In 2016 approximately 65 percent of Americans said the internet or an online platform were their primary source of information. Our transparency rules are outdated and need to be updated to be consistent with modern tools of communication and information. Full disclosure of the source of paid political ads posted on social media platforms will help us to be better informed citizens.

Comments provided by :
Squier, Alison

We deserve to know who is paying for ads in real time. Our democracy is under attack from so many directions. I feel by using disclaimers the public will be able to make more informed decisions. Thank you for yor time.

Comments provided by :
Stefancic, Patricia

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Stewart, Jack

Voters deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter with online disclaimers in real time, just like on television and radio. Facebook and Twitter say they are taking steps to provide this information to their users, but we need FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. I personally do not subscribe to Facebook or Twitter and do not consider them a news source, but evidently millions of Americans do. They must be provided this information to make a more informed decision, or realize they need to go to other sources to do so. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Stewart, Linda

Conservatives deserve to share their ideas and messages as much as anyone else. Just because these ideas don't conform to the progressive agenda prominent in the media, they're just as lawful and protected.

Comments provided by :
Stombaugh, Brian

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say they are taking voluntary steps to provide information on payments for ads. But we need the FEC to provide regulations that can be enforced. Revised transparency rules are vital due to the increase in online communications.

Comments provided by :
Stone, Sheila

It is ridiculous that conservative people can't speed up but every time you turn around the Hollywood elite or sports stars can spew garbage. Nextdoor suspends people's accounts of Conservatives for speaking up but allows others to post other controversial topics like LGBT rights.

Comments provided by :
STOUT, LISA

Keep speech free. Do not restrict speech online.

Comments provided by :
Straley, James

I am appalled at how easily Russia was able to infiltrate and influence our election. This must never happen again. I beg you to ensure accountability....

Comments provided by :
strong, gale

Don't undermine our internet with your control interferences!!!!

Comments provided by :
Strutz, James

We need Net Neutrality. Without it many people's chances to build a profitable business will be impossible. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Stufflebeam, J

Online political ads need to indicate who is funding the ad when the ad is displayed. We need transparency with political ads, otherwise people can be tricked if they don't even know it is a political ad.

Comments provided by :
Stuhlmacher , James

We need strong online disclosure.

Comments provided by :
Sucklal , Sirina

.Leave the Internet alone

Comments provided by :
Sudduth, Gene

Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements?whether it be organizations with ties to Russia or wealthy special interests here at home.

Comments provided by :
Sullivan, Gail

Free Speech is a first amendment Right. Its protected from Government censorship. The FEC is an arm of the federal government. Therefore you have no right sticking your nose into any online free speech discussion, let alone attempting to write regulations to govern it.

Comments provided by :
Swanson, Donn

After reading the Common Cause statement about this matter, I wanted to make a personal comment.

It is incumbent on the Federal Elections Commission to ensure free, fair elections. I am especially concerned that laws about transparency, especially letting readers know who has paid for election-related material, have not been updated nor revised in a long time.

I think the FEC should adopt new transparency rules which call for a clear statement of who paid for what material. I think that revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Citizens deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Although social media companies like Twitter and Facebook say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, they are chiefly interested and motivated to increase profits for their company, not inform citizens. I think the FEC should mandate much stronger transparency rules which give information about all parties who contribute money to promote or discourage election issues.

Comments provided by :
Sweetbriar, Christina

Protect my on-line, 1st amendment freedom of speech rights!

Comments provided by :
Swensrud, Gladys

Support Freedom of the air waves

The citizenry is capable of separating truth from lies and making their own decisions

MT

Comments provided by :

taylor, michael

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :

Taylor, Stephen

American citizens, as well as global ones, deserve to know who is paying for online ads, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced

Comments provided by :
ten Broeke, Trisha

We have fought and died for our freedom of speech before and, if necessary, we will do it again. LEAVE OUR RIGHTS ALONE

Comments provided by :
TERESI, ROSI

How long and what dire consequences will it take the FEC to do its job and protect voters with honest information? We voters are taxpayers and pay your salaries. Do your jobs and make voting fair.

Comments provided by :
Therault, Daniel

Freedom of speech and expression is a fundamental value of our nation and of the free civilized world.

Without freedom of speech and expression, First World prosperity is NOT possible.

It is sad to see that freedom of speech is under attack by various parties. As Reagan said "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same." We must now persevere like never before to protect free speech for everyone, even if we disagree with them.

Comments provided by :
Thissen, Jaime

The internet must remain free and open, with no surveillance of ordinary citizens. This is essential for maintaining a democratic society.

Comments provided by :
Tine', Tina

Unless we know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, our democracy is at risk. we DO NOT WANT ANOTHER 2016 election. the FEC needs to enforce regulations that will make sure there is transparency.

Comments provided by :
tkacz, sharon

This is a fundamental right.

it needs to left alone. Without talking and open expression this country would not be where it is now. We still live in a freedom country. Our forefathers exchanged ideas, collaborated on them, and made them reality. Without that kind of freedom, we are doomed.

Comments provided by :

todd, robert

An informed person wants to know the origin of ads to access their truth and value, whether in news print or online sources. The voluntary steps taken by Facebook and Twitter are not sufficient. The FEC should provide regulations that are enforced.

Sincerely,
Sam Todd

Comments provided by :
Todd, Sam

Please defend our free speech on the internet.

Comments provided by :
Trine, Ralph

Can you please protect the we the peoples free speech everywhere.

Comments provided by :
Trinh, Christopher

Political ads, just like commercial ads, make claims that encourage the consumer of the ads to take some action that benefits the advertiser. Therefore, it's absolutely essential that consumers know who is pitching the ad's ideas. Online ads are no different in this regard than ads in any other medium. We need regulations that direct online platforms to make the ads they profit from transparent. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Tuell, Cynthia

Please allow all of us, as voters, to know specifically, who is paying for and posting ads online. You need to have regulations in place, that will force companies to make this information obvious, for readers of the ads. This kind of transparency is necessary in the 21st century. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
TURCICH, MARGARET

Corporations are not people, nor should they control access to information or the speed at which the common consumer attains it. By giving greater power to corporate control of information, it undermines American democracy and the greater good.

All access to the internet and with equal speed in obtaining information should be equal for all users, individual or otherwise.

Net neutrality supports fairness and freedom. Keep American democracy free and strong by assuring all internet users have the same regulations, access, and rights of expression.

Comments provided by :
Turgon, Sabriga

2nd Amendment guarantee freedom of speech, it is your lawful order to protect that guarantee. Failure to guarantee freedom of speech for ALL is against the law and punishable offense. Think carefully about your actions concerning freedom of speech.

Comments provided by :
Tuten, Sharon

Social media are increasingly important in our politics. We deserve to know who is financing ads by stronger enforcement of better regulations.

Comments provided by :
Ungar, Arthur

You need to protect our online free speech now. Conservatives have the same rights to free speech as liberals. I know you are trying to stop conservatives from using utube and other online sources from using the internet to inform people of important issues. Please protect free speech online.

Comments provided by :
Van Horn, Roy

Please defend our constitutional rights of free and speech and stop those that want to

Comments provided by :
Van Meter, Steve

Since social media cannot police themselves, we need you, the FEC, to make sure these groups follow their rules. No slandering, no shaming, or other behavior that is not appropriate.

Comments provided by :
Van Walsen, Barbara

When political ads are aired on television/print media, there is always a notice regarding who has paid for the ad, allowing the viewer to make their own judgments regarding content. I would urge the FCC to do the same for content on media outlets online. Knowing the extent of the Russia involvement regarding political ads during the last election, it would better serve the American public if there were strict rules in place to identify the source of such ads. The intentions toward transparency by Facebook executives and others does not go far enough to ensure the source of such ads. I believe the FCC should absolutely treat online media the same as television/print media.

Comments provided by :
Vandiver, Diane

It is critical to our democracy that we update rules to reflect current times. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. We need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Vanoye, Sylvie

There should be online disclosures, in real-time, to tell who is paying for all adds including those on Facebook and Twitter.

Comments provided by :
Veraldi, Anne

Federal Election Commission

November 5, 2017

I'm writing to ask to consider rules that reflect transparency in how we communicate and view ads online. I believe that we need to know who is paying for ads on websites like Facebook and Twitter. Further, I ask you to provide regulations that can be enforced.

Respectfully,

Gerald A. Vernon, Ph.D.
Del Mar, CA 92014

Comments provided by :
Vernon, Gerald

There's a drive to silence free online speech and I would like to see the same courtesy and freedoms given to conservative voices as to the voices of liberal factions. I would ask you to make sure that EVERYBODY has an equal voice in the stating of opinions and beliefs. Thank you!

Comments provided by :
Villanueva, Gil

Please write your comment here.

It is important to protect free speech. Protect the Constitution. Thank you.

Comments provided by :

Voss, Shirley

Dear FEC officials,

I am urging you to protect free speech online now. It's part of our First Amendment rights.

Comments provided by :
Voytek, Rebecca

The FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements. Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads. We need to use every lever at our disposal to prevent meddling in our elections from happening again, and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages.

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. Our transparency rules are outdated and should be updated to remove references to telegrams and typewriters and updated to include online advertisements. 78 percent of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. That includes 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents. And I do, too!

Comments provided by :
Wagner, Kathleen

There isn't enough incentive for online companies to voluntarily be transparent about advertising. FEC regulations are needed to make sure everyone can see where the money is coming from, to see who is paying to sell them a product, service, or even an opinion.

Comments provided by :
Walker III, Jack

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Walley, Shane

Please write your comment here. stand firm on free speech period.

Comments provided by :
Walmer, Richard

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Comments provided by :
Ward Jr., Tedd

We deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you for reading my comments.

Comments provided by :
Ware, Christopher

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced since we deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time..

Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. I NEED to know who or what organization is backing issues to help me decide how to vote. Without that information, voting is like buying a used car sight unseen and untested.

Comments provided by :
Wasgatt, Ann

Protecting online speech should be included in our rights.

Comments provided by :
Weber, Kathleen

Please protect free speech online and put a stop to our opinions being stopped because it doesnt fit the liberals agendas.

Comments provided by :
Weeks, Bill

I believe it is critical that advertisers are identified in their on-line activities. The American people deserve to know who is posting ads in order to reasonably assess their credibility. I think this transparency is critical, as it has been deemed to be in television advertising.

Comments provided by :
weiner, marcia

As you know, people use social media to influence their votes.
Without transparency, this trend puts informed voting and democracy at risk.

People deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time, in line with current technology.

We cannot rely on social media to do this on its own. Such reliance is akin to the "fox guarding the hen house."

The goal of preventing this situation is one of the reasons for government regulation by agencies like the FEC. Do not surrender your power and duty to protect our citizens.

Provide cogent, thorough and enforceable regulations of social media electoral material.

Comments provided by :
WEINSTEIN, ELYETTE

LEAVE FREE SPEECH ONLINE ALONE

Comments provided by :
WEITZEL, JOHN

Do not regulate FREE SPEECH.

Comments provided by :
WEITZEL, JOHN

Democracy dies in darkness. We **MUST** know who is paying for political ads on Facebook or Twitter or left- and right-wing media sites. Do your job and make this happen.

Comments provided by :
Welker, James

There must be disclosure for online ads. The social media Russia ad findings prove that the FEC needs to provide enforceable regulation to ensure transparency for who is paying for these ads.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Welling, Jeannette

Our online first amendments rights are being stolen by the FEC. Please make sure you look into this matter and stop this happening. Thankyou.

Comments provided by :
Wellman, Dennis

To FCC

I want my right to online free-speech protected now.

Comments provided by :

Wells, Claudia

Our democracy depends on a well informed voters. More and more voters are receiving their news and electoral information via the internet. To be well informed we need to know who is paying for political ads. We can not rely on ISPs to provide this necessary information without FEC regulations requiring them to do so. Televised and printed political advertisements are required to provide the public this information. ISPs must also be required to do the same.

Comments provided by :
Welshinger, Keith

The Constitutional right of our freedom of speech was drafted by some very wise and very thoughtful men. The Constitution has served our country very well and has allowed us to prosper better than any other country in recorded history. To modify this Constitution in any manner whatsoever not only violates our rights but jeopardizes what has made this country great.

Comments provided by :
wenzel, james

If the FEC can regulate ads on print/radio/tv, it ought to be able to apply the same regulations to those on the internet. The public deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

Thank you,
Meredith West
Concerned Citizen

Comments provided by :
West, Meredith

The public has the right to know who is sponsoring political ads on social media and this information should be incorporated into the ads, just as it's codified for public broadcast. Democracy works best in a full disclosure context. The best way to judge whether someone is trying to manipulate the public with questionable information or ideas is to know who paid for the ads. There should be rules to ban bots in the dissemination of political speech as well. Enforceable standards are necessary to accomplish the transparency needed in federal elections.

Comments provided by :

Wherley, Michael

Do not let foreign governments, i.e.Russia, interfere with our elections or democracy. All ads on social media?s should be disclosed by whom they are placed. Also, Facebook should remove people or groups who are ?trolls? and post derogatory things. Thank you

Comments provided by :
Wierima, LaQuita

Other countries should not be influencing our elections in any way, shape or form. That sort of thing is can get really ugly, really fast. That's why we need to know whose paying for online ads. We should see disclaimers in real time so we know the motive behind the ads. An update on transparency rules for the online 21st society is necessary. Please act on this promptly without any partisan bickering or game-playing.

Comments provided by :
Wilkerson, Brian

I am writing about online transparency on behalf of myself and my son and mother; we all live together and consider ourselves active citizens...

We feel we deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

We believe revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

Finally, although social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you,

Darla F. Wilson
Wilmington, DE

Comments provided by :
Wilson, Darla

With what happened in the 2016 election and continues to happen on social media we need full disclosure of who is paying for any adds. Only transparency will help end foreign government attempts to influence our electoral process.

Comments provided by :
Wilson, Jan L

Voters need to know who is paying for political advertisements so they can make informed decisions at the ballot box. Often times, large donors support misleading and frightening ads that trick voters into voting against their own best interests. Knowing that a frightening attack ad is funded by interests that stand to gain financially if a measure is passed or defeated might cause voters to study the issues more carefully and give more consideration to their votes. Certainly, if money is speech, knowing who spent it is necessary information to predict the impact of one's vote. Campaign contributions are political speech and voters need to know who the speakers are.

Comments provided by :
Wilson, Michael

The Russian attempts to subvert the 2016 presidential election by posting false and inflammatory information via social media must be resisted and exposed to the maximum extent possible. One way to do this is to require any organization buying space on media such as Facebook and Twitter to include disclosures like those required on television and radio and in print publications, identifying the organization and who is paying for the ads. Although social media are privately owned, so are the other media for which these disclosures are required. It is not enough for these media to say they will voluntarily provide this information--there are no sanctions if they fail to do so. I ask that the FEC provide enforceable regulations making it harder to sway public opinion and action by inflammatory lies.

Comments provided by :
Wilson, William

Dear Sir, Mdme

Please insure that our rights to free speech are guaranteed and that the current procedure of filtering/cancelling posts and comments of people are NOT done.

Comments provided by :

wing, thomas

I am concerned I do not know who is posting info on-line, facebook or other social media sites. I'm seeing Russia may be posting some of this info. Protect us, we all need to have confidence in what we are seeing on-line. This is what your organization is created for, protecting citizens of USA. Elodie Winger

Comments provided by :
Winger, Elodie

We, the people of the United States, deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter have said they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can be enforced.

We must restore our democracy and balance of power with checks and balances. Otherwise, we will become a dictatorship!

Barbara L. Winner

Comments provided by :
Winner, Barbara

Please protect my on-line First Amendment rights. Free speech is a God given right and please do not mess with Free Speech!!!!!!

Comments provided by :
Winson, Kathryn

Protect free speech. It is our first amendment right

Comments provided by :
Wodzicki, Gene

Dear FEC

SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY

We have a right to know who's paying for ad's on line.

We need online on line disclaimers in real time.

Comments provided by :

Woerfel, Christine

In light of the manner in which Russia was able to influence the US presidential election, I demand disclosure for online ads. Technology has changed the way people communicate and view information. In the 21st century ads are increasingly seen online. We deserve to know who is paying for the ads we see. It is time for the FEC to provide enforceable regulations demanding this type of disclosure.

Comments provided by :
Wojciak, Barbara

Please don't let Antifa or anyone silence conservative free speech !!!

Comments provided by :
Wolfe, Charles

Free speech is a protected right, including online and printed sources. Please continue to protect it. True conservatives like myself will be watching.

Comments provided by :
Wolfe, Kenneth

The consent of the governed is only possible where there is free speech. Without free speech we are puppets.

Comments provided by :
Woodriff, Piers

The Russian government used Facebook and social media platforms to interfere with the 2016 election.

We need to use every lever at our disposal ? including ending secret online political ads ? to prevent that from happening again, and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages.

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information.

The FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers as to who is paying for them ? just like is done for television and print advertisements.

Protect our elections!

Comments provided by :
Woods, Laura

Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements?whether it be organizations with ties to Russia or wealthy special interests here at home.

Comments provided by :
Yam, Jane

protect on line free speech. Protect all free speech.

Comments provided by :
Young, Richard

Every ad, on any media including social, must be labeled with the name of the organization that paid for it. And that organization must be traceable to any other organization with which it is affiliated. If it cannot be traced with a simple google, the the ad must be refused.

Comments provided by :
Zimmermann, Adele E

Free speech in America!!!!

It is for everyone.. My rights are guaranteed to me in a free Christian nation... Do what is right.
God is watching.

Comments provided by :
ZINK, ALICE

The recent revelations of Russian interference in our American election shows the need for enforced transparency of online advertising sources.
The online social media must have mandatory guidelines regarding advertising and news story transparency if they are enjoy any public trust.

Comments provided by :
Zorc, Scott

Writing on my own behalf and that of 4 additional adult, voting family members:

We feel strongly that we deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time.

We further believe that revised transparency rules must, in fairness, reflect 21st Century ways of communicating/seeing ads, i.e., increasingly online.

Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
zucker, m. lee

To the FEC:

Media communications have changed dramatically in the last decade with the dramatic increase of online news media - it has increased dramatically in not only volume, but impact, as more and more Americans turn to social media as a primary source of information and communication.

We must update our regulations to ensure that transparency is provided so that citizens know the true source of both advertising and news - or, perhaps more accurately, advertising vs. news. We need to know who is paying for ads, real time, so that we can better assess their meaning and accuracy potential conflicts of interest.

It is not enough to assume that social media companies like Facebook and Twitter will act voluntarily - if left to their own processes, results will be erratic, highly variable, unpredictable, and closed to the public. There must be clear and effective regulation in order to set clear guidance and expectations and enable effective enforcement.

Our democracy depends on a well-informed public - one in which citizens can make good assessments and decisions based on accurate and transparent communication of information. Please act swiftly and effectively to ensure this transparency and democratic process.

Thank you very much for your time and service in the best interests of the American public.

Sincerely,

Deborah L. Zvosec

Comments provided by :
Zvosec, Deborah

Leave the first amendment alone! Leave everything alone for that matter. Stop trying to regulate everything we do or say. You are un-elected but that doesn't mean you can't lose your job.

Comments provided by :
Zwischenberger, Doug