

The internet has become a primary source of information, including political and election information. For American citizens to judge credibility of that information, knowing the source - who is paying for political ads - is vital, just as it is for television and print ads. Knowing the source of on-line ads in the 2016 election would have helped limit Russian meddling. 78% of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads on social media platforms. Please update our rules accordingly. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Kendrick, Cindy

We all have a right to know who is paying for online political ads. This is a simple common sense measure - to require online ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them, and I see no reason for not doing this.

Thank you
Michael Abramson

Comments provided by :
Abramson, Michael

I my opinion it is simple. All adds should have the info of who's responsible for it's content.

Comments provided by :
Albiani, Adella

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 :
Alcoba, Ivette

In our times people do their research on the internet, form impressions from images and ideas seen on the internet, base their opinions on internet "facts" and react to social events via the internet. Never in history have we had a medium like this where people were so heavily influenced by one medium of communication. And while the internet is a marvelous world library it can also be a source of false information that leads people to completely misjudge situations and events. Too often false information found on the internet has fueled irrational beliefs, distrust, paranoia and anti-social behavior.

I do not advocate censorship. Free speech is a Constitutional right that must be protected. But one area of deliberate deception that COULD be managed without infringing that right, is political advertisements by undisclosed actors. The FEC should require the same transparency on the internet that it requires in broadcast and print media, and for the same reason. Sound decision-making by the public requires accurate information. We need to know the facts ~ which includes the inherent bias in any presentation of facts.

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. This medium is too important to allow the source of political messages to be hidden simply because disclosure is optional. Legally requiring disclosure might alleviate (at least a portion of) the political deception that clouds the public mind.

Comments provided by :
Alexander, Nikki

Please ensure that viewers are made aware of who pays for ads.

Thank you.

Asha

Comments provided by :

Allen, Asha

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 foreign governments from 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.

Comments provided by :
Allen, Samantha

Please, require transparency of online ads. Lack thereof has landed us in the current terrible predicament we are in. Russian bots trolling people, smearing lies. Clearly, Facebook and Twitter CEO's are more concerned with making another buck then with proactively weeding out, for example, millions of Rubles(!!!!!) paying for attack ads. We want to see transparency!!! Thank you!!!

Comments provided by :

Ambra, Leia

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. This is the land of the free and honesty is thee best policy. We should know, it is our right!!!

Comments provided by :
Amshel, Gail

From my perspective, the logical action with online ads is internet communication disclaimers. The goal of these ads is the same for other types of media. Why should the rules be different? For continued transparency, I highly recommend we continue these rules for this additional medium.

Comments provided by :
Anders, Tisa

With the recent testimony in Congress about Russian ads placed on the various social media, we need to require that those placing online political ads be identified. We need to be an informed Public when making these very important decisions as citizens. Interference from foreign actors in our democracy should be troubling to all whether Democrat, Republican or Independent.

Comments provided by :
Anderson, Barbara

THE AMERICAN public has a right to know who is buying political ads on the internet.OUR elections must remain free of interference from other countries.THE 2016 WERE A GOOD EXAMPLE OF WHAT CAN HAPPEN.SUPER PACS and rich people like the KOCH brothers have been harming our election process for several years.I hope something can be changed before or next presidential election or we may end up being controlled by a foreign government.

Comments provided by :
anderson, jeffery

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.

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 :
Andrewjeski, Mike

Just as we must see who pays for TV ads, we must know who pays for internet ads. The recent revelations of the Russian Intelligence agents who used facebook to foment hate in the US only underscores this.

Comments provided by :
ANZALDUA, ROBERT

Absolutely necessary. Get the whole election process fixed. No more big money, overturn citizens united. Parties only represent money. Stop, please. No more super delegates, no more electoral college. No voter suppression. Automatically registered. The right person for the job, gets elected by the PEOPLES majority, period. So very sincerely, We the people UNITED WE STAND!!!!!!!!!!

Comments provided by :

Apczynski , Irene

Full transparency and accountability is crucial for a strong democracy. It is beyond appalling that money has so corrupted our election process that contests go to whoever is backed by the most powerful and richest lobbyists and corporations. By creating transparency in this process, the American people can see which candidates actually stand for them, and what special interests they are swayed by.

Comments provided by :
Arif, Tahir

Please require on-line ads to show who paid for them. They should have the same requirements as print ads, and there must not be a repeat of the last election cycle's deceptive ads.

Comments provided by :
Austin, Christine

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 :
Aydelott, Steve

Our democracy depends on robust, transparent debate. The FEC is the agency charged with making sure campaign finance rules are followed ? the agency should start working now to require the same level of transparency for online ads as we have for political ads on television. Our outdated rules, which still include references to telegrams and typewriters, don't require adequate disclosure for online ads.

We 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.

Please ensure transparency!

Comments provided by :

Bain, Diana

Hello,

It has become obvious that unscrupulous sources have been funding advertisements benefiting political candidates. In the interest of transparency in our political process, all public political ads should have to reveal their funding sources. This should include information as to where the public can research these sources for further information as to the advertisers biases. Please consider my request with all sincerity. Thank you.

Comments provided by :

Bair, John

There is strong evidence that Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to interfere with the 2016 election. We need to use every tool 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. 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.

Comments provided by :
Baker, Greg

In light of what is known and what is still being discovered about interference in the 2016 elections, it is imperative that the American public know who is paying for political advertising content. We expect this level of transparency in all print, radio and television advertising. And the Internet should fall under the same regulations, especially as more Americans turn to social media and online outlets for their regular news coverage.

Comments provided by :
Barbieri, Mairin

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.

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 :
Bartkowicz, Richard

You must do something to fix online ads where the public will be able to know who has bought this ad, like tv & print ads must do now!!

Comments provided by :
Bartos, Janet

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Comments provided by :
Beard, Heather

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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.

Comments provided by :
Beavers, Nancy

To the FEC:

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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.

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

Thank you.

Don Becker

Comments provided by :
Becker, Don

It benefits everyone to know the bias of any ad.

Comments provided by :
Beerkowitz, Henry

It is my understanding that in the recent 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 older communications technologies, such as telegrams and typewriters ? don't require adequate disclaimers for online ads (newer technologies).

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.

Such disclosure is absolutely necessary to prevent the corruption of our democratic processes by wealthy individuals and foreign adversaries.

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 :
Begonja , Fr. Tony

I urge the FEC to mandate full disclosure of who pays for political ads posted to social media platforms.

Please take immediately action nto update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Behrendt, Tom

One of the best reasons to make political ads on social media follow the same rules that we have for TV, radio and newspapers is the prevalence of ads and stories promulgated by Russia and their lackeys in the last quadrennial elections that had a massive amount of truly "fake news". DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN AGAIN, or our putative democracy will surely fall.

Comments provided by :
Bellem, Sarah

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.

Comments provided by :
Bender, Doug

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 :
Bennett, Bryan

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

However, our transparency rules are REALLY outdated? they 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.

Please act immediately to update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them. Who ACTUALLY paid for them, please don't allow for fraudulent front groups to hide the real source of funding.

Comments provided by :
Berezansky, Nick

If Russia was not allowed to hack through social media for fake ads we would have a country that was fulfilling the needs of the middle class and the poor not the top 1% wealthy and our president would not be a total threat to everyone on earth.

Comments provided by :
BERNSTEIN, LAURA ANN K

Transparency is essential in advertising, especially political ads on the internet. We have long known how to check a local TV station's public files to see who was paying for commercials in the political realm.

We need the exact same transparency and disclosure for internet ads, and how about we agree that US political ads can only be purchased with U.S. currency while we are at?

Comments provided by :
Biggs-Adams, Carrie

Please consider our democracy if you still want to call it that, is in a very precarious state. No one feels that our system is working or representing the people. With constant media manipulation (as our most recent election demonstrated) it is imperative we understand who is putting out information and how that serves their interests. Any thing less is a free for all and now includes international influences, the CIA taught the world how that can work. Again, FEC do the job intended and allow more transparent and honest messaging.

Comments provided by :
Birmingham, Diiane

Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements-whether it be Russia or wealthy special interests here at home. This knowledge enables Americans to evaluate such ads critically and more accurately. Disclosing who pays for these ads helps lessen the corrosive influence of shadowy, dark money. It would also help re-legitimize our democracy.

Comments provided by :
Bishop, Sean

Considering the amount of information that is received over the internet and the fact that more and more people receive their news from the internet, it is vitally important that the source of political information be identified as it is in other media. This should apply to social media as well considering the effects it had on the last election.

Comments provided by :
Blaine, William

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

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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 :
Bolman, David

Because of evidence that the 2016 elections were influenced by the Russian government and some Russian people using social media and other information outlets and because of the distinct possibility that foreign money was spent on political ads it is now essential that we be informed of exactly who is responsible for the advertisements. Americans have a right to know who is trying to influence their decision making in order to make INFORMED decisions on both issues as well as candidates.

Comments provided by :
Bomba Jr , Theodore J

Please require that online ads include prominently, legibly displayed information on who paid for the ads. Ensure that the identify of the ad sponsor is clear and understandable, and not obfuscated with innocuous-sounding, or misleading, names.

Comments provided by :
Booth, Louise

Please require full disclosure of who paid for political internet ads in the ads themselves. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Booth, Richard

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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 :

Bordelon, Tika

I want to know who (what organizations) are funding (paying for) online advertisements -- all of them, not just election ads. Every company that serves up online ads should require such information, and it should be verified before an ad is placed online. Any attempt to circumvent this disclosure should be a federal felony punished by very large fines (say \$1,000 per view) and jail terms for everyone responsible (start at 5 years and add a month for every bogus ad). A large portion of the levied fines should go to online notices identifying the offending organizations and individuals -- posted on all of the online ad services where the offending ads were posted -- preferably shown to everyone who viewed the offending ads.

Comments provided by :
Borden, Bruce

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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.

Thanks for all you do,

Comments provided by :
Borgeson, Dean

America must stop foreign countries & people from influencing American elections. Then charge Americans who help them with being a traitor to America.

Comments provided by :
Bourlotos, George

Americans have a right to know who is paying and how much is being paid for political advertisements?whether it be organizations with ties to Russia or wealthy special interests here at home. It is important that you vote to update these regulations that work toward maintaining the integrity of the American voting process.

Thank you.

Joan Bowers

Comments provided by :

Bowers, Joan

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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 :
Boyne, Jonathan

In the interest of transparency, all campaign ads should announce who is paying for the ad. This is a bipartisan issue. The internet is increasingly the tool people use for communication. Rules regarding campaign ads on other media (TV, print media) should also apply to the internet.

Comments provided by :
Bozowski, Janis

Americans deserve to know who is paying for the advertisements they see on-line. Any responsible person wants to know whether some entity related to Russia or some other country is sponsoring an ad. It is equally important to know whether some wealthy person or special interest group is paying for the ads. It is not a liberal or conservative issue, it is a matter of putting information in context. Thank you. Louisa Bradford

Comments provided by :
Bradford, Louisa

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 and will continue to do so in upcoming elections. 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.

Comments provided by :
Breidigan, Kelley

Keep the internet free and open. Creating a fast lane for those who are able and willing to pay for it stifles innovation. A small business owner would never be able to pay what a large corporation would be able to pay to be in the "fast lane" in order to end up at the top of the search results. This is anti-competitive.

Comments provided by :
Bristlin, Vikki

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

Comments provided by :
brown, dace

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 :
Bruder, Bill

Please update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them.
Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Bruins, Scott

All political ads and news should be identified as to the true source, in other words all comments or opinions have to be identified so that citizens can see who is promoting the ad/comment for the general public. No shell companies, the true group has to be identified just like the other forms of poll results, news or opinions. Keep the dark side of politics away from citizens trying to make a choice.

Comments provided by :
Brusin, Eugene

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Comments provided by :
Bryan, David

Online campaign ads need to include information on who is funding them, just like television and print ads require.

Comments provided by :
Burkhart, Kathryn

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Comments provided by :
Burns, Bruce

All Political ads on the internet should be transparent. When the rules were made there was no regular internet social media. In 2016 the US elections were open to false information because this loophole existed. To protect ourselves we need to know who is responsible for what they are saying publically. No fake news, no Russian or any other foreign actions in our elections.

Comments provided by :
Bush, Don and Leslie

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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 :
Bushur, Mary

Please require any and all online ads clearly state who is paying for them.

It is not acceptable to have companies who are actual fronts to individuals to be sufficient information. Prior to taking payment, FEC should be able to identify the source of the ad payments and not artificial and misleading company names.

Thank you

Sandra J Cadena, PhD

Comments provided by :

Cadena, SANDRA

We have a right to know who is paying for internet ads just like any other media. Please require online political Ads to include full disclosure.

Thank you,
Lisa Caine

Comments provided by :
Caine, Lisa

When the TV was invented, it was unique, a tool to inform and entertain the public. Later, it became a tool for commercial purposes, for marketing and shopping for products. Laws were created to protect the public from false claims. Now we have the Internet and with it, the scope of services and products, including information, is astounding and reaches consumers across the globe. Just as before, we have to create laws to protect the public from false claims, but in addition require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them.

Comments provided by :
Callahan, Charles

End the on-line ad loophole! No foreign meddling! Require media firms to reveal the sponsors of ads! (Oh, and preserve net neutrality!)

Comments provided by :
Callaway, Michael

It is time to add transparency to our technological communications. We need to know who is sponsoring online campaign ads just as we have now for print and television. Take a positive step toward open and transparent elections. Let the American people have the information to make a considered judgement.

Comments provided by :
Canarsky, Maurine

Considering recent revelations regarding online ads, it is of critical importance that the true source of this material be revealed to the viewer.

Comments provided by :
Cardwell, Paul

The internet should be treated like any other type of media when dealing with politically related information. The internet is more than an information service, it has become the backbone information source for the majority of Americans and should be treated with the same respect and regulation as any other media source.

Any advertisements for any kind of political purpose should show the truth behind where the money to fund them is coming from.

We need to remove the ability of money to hide itself behind shell corporations or any other kind of entity. The true donors of that money should be placed in clear legible text on every advertisement.

Comments provided by :
Carlos, Alejandro

According to a new Marist poll 78% of Americans want full disclosure for political ads posted to social media platforms. That includes 80% of Republicans and 82% of independents. I tel the FEC to update regulations & require online political ads to include a disclaimer identifying who paid for them.

Comments provided by :
carmichael, john

Because about two-thirds of Americans now receive the majority of their news and advertising from internet and social media sources, it is time to update our antiquated laws by extending the disclosure requirements placed on print media to internet sites and social media. It is clear from congressional hearings that the corporations will not do it on their own and therefore it is the responsibility of the government to protect us citizens.

Comments provided by :
Carroll , Linda

I think it is high time we (the government in particular) recognizes that the internet is the primary source of news for most people in the United States and requires identification of the source of political ads as is done for other forms of media. Especially in this time of "fake news," whatever the source, it would be very helpful to know what organization is making political statements. This is not an infringement on their rights to speak but recognition that when one can no longer judge the validity of an argument by meeting the speaker face to face, one needs help in knowing what one is hearing. While there may be the danger that people will just dismiss an opinion if it comes from another party, that danger exists however one communicates. I hope you will act in the public interest by extending the requirement of providing the source of political ads to the internet. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Chandler, David

With roughly 65% of Americans now identifying the internet or an online platform as their primary source of information, it is the right time to address the issue of disclosing who is paying for online campaign ads, just as is required of television and radio ads. I urge the FCC to take decisive action on this urgent matter.

Comments provided by :
Chaplin, Chris

Please tell the FEC to require online campaign ads to include disclaimers as to who is paying for them ? just as is done for television and print advertisements.

Comments provided by :
Chato, Chris

Dear members of the FEC:

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.

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.

I am extremely concerned that until we get a handle on our social media platforms the integrity of our entire election process and even the workings of the three independent branches of our federal government will be under such suspicion and doubt that getting anything constructive and productive done in Washington for the American people will be impossible.

Comments provided by :
Cheek, Deborah

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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.

We need greater transparency in political advertising in order to protect the future of our democracy.

Comments provided by :

Chieffo, Richard

We cannot afford interference from other countries to sway our elections as happened in 2016. The source of all advertisement must be identified.

Comments provided by :
Clark, Tom

The FCC has authority to regulate political ads. And with good reason: The American people deserve to know who is trying to sway their votes. Every two years, the airwaves are awash with ads ending either "I'm So N. So, and I approve this message" or "Paid for by the Committee to Stop the Problems." So much for the old media. On the internet, things are different.

The internet was awash last year with misleading, unattributed ads, and fake news. (By which I mean objectively false stories presenting themselves as true, not the newer definition in use in some circles.) There is no good reason that online ads should be exempt from the regulations that govern print or the airwaves. Indeed, as the recent revelation that Russia paid hundreds of thousands of dollars of Facebook ads last year shows, there are very pressing reasons that online ads **SHOULD** be forced to disclose their financiers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Comments provided by :
Cleary, Sean

Americans deserve the right of transparency in politics - we deserve to know who is contributing political monies.

Comments provided by :
Clement, WF

We cannot allow any political entity to hide their identity when presenting their views.

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.

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 :
Cohen, Jeffrey

I believe that the Russians interfered with the last presidential election. One of the ways they did this was through misleading advertisements, click bait false articles etc. This belief has been discussed and verified by all of our intelligence community here in the USA. As a result, I feel it is incumbent for your agency to require rules that are already mandated for print, radio and TV to also apply to Facebook, Twitter and Google. Specifically requiring the source of the information for all ads and news is necessary for those consuming this information. It is much easier for Americans to judge the merit of these ads and articles when this information is provided with the ad and article. Additionally, making sure that hateful and violent ads/"fake news" stories are vetted and removed aggressively by these social media outlets is also of paramount importance. These are rules that have been governing other types of media for decades and all social media outlets should be held accountable, as well.

Comments provided by :
Colkitt, Linda

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.

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 :

COLLINS, CAROL

In the wake of recent events it's more important than ever to know where our information is coming from. Please require internet advertisers to disclose who is paying for the ad.

Comments provided by :
Colvin, Maria

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.

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 :
Cooney, Deborah

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.

Comments provided by :
correia, abigail

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.

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 :
Coulter, Andrew

No government over reach! Disclaim who funds and approves all internet communications and I will make up my own mind and and make my own decisions. Isn't this the Republican way?

Get the alt-not-right-in-the-head people, which are the entire trump administration, out of the White House NOW!!! We need extreme vetting for ANYONE with ties to these hate and terrorist groups to be banned from entering the USA!!! We need ICE to deport ALL these alt-right terrorists with criminal background tied to these hate and terrorist groups. These terrorist immigrants and its racist descendants are a threat to the safety of all American citizens!!!

Comments provided by :
Cowen, Anna

Require full transparency from all social media outlets. We have a right as citizens to know who is using propaganda to try to influence us. Hold the social media outlets to the same standard as other forms of public communication.

Comments provided by :
Coyne, Daniel

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.

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 :

Cross, Jennifer

I call on the FEC to act immediately to update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them. This is so obviously crucial to our democracy in light of Russian interference in our recent elections. Include social media political ads in the regulation, too!

Comments provided by :
Curedale, Patrice

In any part of the democratic process, it is important for every voter to have access to solid information about the candidates and issues on the ballot. If political ads are not required to be transparent about who is funding them, how is the average taxpayer going to know 'who says so' when political ads are aired.

There is a reason many Americans are extremely concerned about corruption in government. Our election process should be transparent, nonpartisan and obvious to any American citizen registered to vote. Learning about candidates and issues with full disclosure is the only way to ensure a healthy and sustainable democracy.

Comments provided by :
Curry, Linda

I believe that online political advertisements should include disclaimers that identify who paid for them. Please demand transparency from political advertisers. Thank you

Comments provided by :
Davidson, Maggie

It is imperative in a democracy to give require names not only for money donors but also for those who choose to campaign using the written word. They would be giving one information to back their particular interests and the information would be biased. Mot only that, accuracy and the Truth with facts given shouldhave the authors name attached.

Comments provided by :
Davies, Elizabeth

With the recent election interference we the American people can't afford to not know where political ads are coming from. We need to know who is willing to betray country and kin for a chance at more money. Make things transparent.

Comments provided by :
Davis-Hackamack, Tishea

Voters deserve to know who is paying for political ads!

update your disclosure requirements and end the online ad loophole now!

Comments provided by :
Davis, Melissa

Since 2010, 65% of people under 30 cite the internet as their major source for news.¹ In every age group, the number of people getting their news and information from TV and other sources is dropping, and more and more Americans are relying on the internet as their primary means of getting information.²

Yet the Federal Election Commission requirements remain stuck not just in the 20th century, but in the 19th century, with references to telegrams and typewriters ? but no requirements for online ads to disclose who is paying for them. When it comes to political campaigning, the internet is the Wild West again.

Tell the FEC: Close the online ad loophole. ALL campaign ads should disclose their funders.

Online ad disclosure will ensure that super PACs and wealthy donors cannot sneak around transparency rules. And very importantly, it will ensure that foreign actors can't meddle in our elections.

There is strong evidence that Russian operatives bought Facebook ads seeking to sway the US election. As many as 126 million Americans may have been served content from Russia-linked pages, with no clue they were being influenced by foreign agents. And that is just organic content, not even including paid ads.³

Updating FEC disclosure requirements to cover internet ads will help protect against something like this ever happening again.

Comments provided by :
Dawson, James

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.

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 :
Dawson, Peggy

The FEC is compelled to abide by all laws and regulations dealing with full disclosure of the people groups and political parties backing political parties, candidates and legislation.

Marie de Jong

Comments provided by :
de Jong, Marie

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. But our outdated transparency rules include references to telegrams and typewriters, with nothing about disclaimers for online ads. More than three in four 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. 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 :
Derreumaux, Tiffaney

For the sake of the future of our democracy, people need to know who is funding the information that they take in.

Comments provided by :
Dierauf, Benjamin

Since the corrupt 2016 presidential election and what we now know about the Russians using the internet to reach and change voters opinions we need the FEC to update their rules governing ad buys on twitter, google, other sites because we don't need foreign governments messing with our governments elections you have the right to change the rules for these social media companies and you need to do it now.

Comments provided by :
dietrich, karol

Facebook, Twitter and YouTube must be required to disclose their political advertisers. Russian (and potentially other) interference in U.S. elections and public opinion is unacceptable. We must take steps to prevent this abuse of social media immediately, and especially before the next election. Sincerely, Mark Ditzler

Comments provided by :
Ditzler, Mark

80% of us want political ads to include who paid for them! This is just common sense. Act now to include this in the tax bill.

Comments provided by :
Drrve, Jo

When I use the internet, I expect to be informed of what is advertisement or infomercial, and be confident in what is not. I do not wish to have to figure out whether I am being duped by an advertiser trying to convince me that s/he is doing a documentary.

Comments provided by :
drummond, diane

I support changing FEC rules to provide that all political advertising, in any medium, is identified by the person(s) or group(s) that have paid for the advertising.

During the 2016 election, 65% of Americans identified online platforms as their primary source of news. Yet current FEC rules do not hold online political advertising to the same disclosure that is required of print or tv news.

Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertising. The FEC has a duty to update current rules.

Comments provided by :
Duba, Jackie

Whenever I receive political material by mail I first look at who paid for the add. This reveals volumes- if it is to be trusted, or if it is nonsense. You have the power to begin to give Americans confidence once again in the electoral process of our democracy. If you do not then you are playing into Putin's hands. Margaret Duerr

Comments provided by :
Duerr, Margaret

I urge the FEC to immediately update regulations to require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them.

Increasing numbers of Americans turn to the internet as a leading source of news and information. Yet outdated transparency rules, rules which still include references to telegrams and typewriters, fail to provide adequate disclosure for online ads.

According to a recent Marist poll, 78 percent of Americans want full disclosure of who pays for the political ads posted on social media. These numbers include majorities of Republicans, Independents, and Democrats.

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

Comments provided by :
Dukes, Thomas

Most American use the internet in some form for their main source of information. We need complete disclosure for online ads. The public needs to know who is paying for political advertisements, what country they are from and what special interest they represent.

From what I've seen in the news lately, it seems Russia used various social media to interfere with the 2016 election. We need to end secret internet political advertisements and keep foreign influences out of our elections.

Comments provided by :
Durnell, Tim

we have a right to know who is funding an ad because it makes a BIG difference in believability and we all deserve to know the truth, especially in terms of who is running our government.

Comments provided by :
dyer, louisa

I am a voter and am very concerned about the lack of transparency regarding political ads on the internet.

It is clearly known that at least 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information, Something like 78% of Americans which includes both Democrats and Republicans, want there to be identification with these ads so they know who is sponsoring them.

It is past time for the FEC to acknowledge that times of changed because of the internet.

Given what happened with the Russians targeting half of the American voters and trying to skew our democracy and elections, **WE CLEARLY NEED TRANSPARENCY NOW!**

thank you for taking the steps to protect our country and our democracy

Comments provided by :

edwards, cynthia

The transparency rules used by the FEC are woefully out of date. Given today's media for communicating information, it is imperative that political ads in all formats reveal who is paying for them.

Comments provided by :
Embley, Sally

With all the furor over meddling in the last election with fake news and advertisements, it is essential that the posters of internet content (including social media) be clearly identified. This is critical to our democracy. People cannot make good decisions without verifiable facts, and identification of the source is essential.

Comments provided by :
Escherich, Susan

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.

We the people 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 this 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 ? it 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 :
Eveland, Nicole

The identities of those who fund political ads, whether wealthy individuals, families, or interest groups, should be made open and transparent to the public. We saw the danger present in the intervention of a hostile state manipulating on-line/social media in the latest election.

Comments provided by :
Falkner, Jeffrey

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 don't require adequate disclaimers for online ads.

Witness the influencing of the election by the Russians.

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 :
Farkas, Keith

I'm part of the 65% of Americans who gets my news online. Our transparency rules predate this widely used information source-actually it talks of typewriters and telegrams! It is time to update it, and let us know who is paying for our online ads, particularly with the evidence of foreign government interference!

Comments provided by :
Fast, Wendy

If you are not acting to protect and preserve Democracy via the popular vote of American citizens with all the power the FEC has at its disposal, then you are in the wrong position.

Comments provided by :
Fast, William

The Federal Election Commission requires that every TV ad, radio spot, mailer, and print ad seeking to sway your vote on a candidate or issue disclose who is paying for it.

Online ads are not subject to the same disclosure rules as TV, radio, and print ads?

That's a loophole large enough to drive a truck through, and outrageous in the digital era.

Americans have a right to know who is trying to sway their vote. Update your disclosure requirements to include online ads.

Since 2010, 65% of people under 30 cite the internet as their major source for news.¹ In every age group, the number of people getting their news and information from TV and other sources is dropping, and more and more Americans are relying on the internet as their primary means of getting information.²

But FEC requirements remain stuck not just in the 20th century but in the 19th century, with references to telegrams and typewriters ? but no requirements for online ads to disclose who is paying for them. When it comes to political campaigning, the internet is the Wild West again.

Close the online ad loophole. ALL campaign ads should disclose their funders.

Online ad disclosure will ensure that super PACs and wealthy donors cannot sneak around transparency rules. And very importantly, it will ensure that foreign actors can't meddle in our elections.

There is strong evidence that Russian operatives bought Facebook ads seeking to sway the US election. As many as 126 million Americans may have been served content from Russia-linked pages, with no clue they were being influenced by foreign agents. And that is just organic content, not even including paid ads.³

Updating FEC disclosure requirements to cover internet ads will help protect against something like this ever happening again.

Make online ads disclose who is paying for them.

Comments provided by :
Feldman, Tom

I like many people I know use the internet as a primary news and information source. As more and more people move online for information it is important that some level of transparency in political advertising is maintained and that FEC rules are followed. Please update the disclosure rules to include online advertising.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Felsen, Sara

I understand that 78% of all Americans want to know the source of political messages that come to them unsolicited via the internet or any other medium that they have such easy access to in this modern age. Please make it possible for us to judge the validity of these messages by making the sources reveal themselves honestly and accurately.

Comments provided by :
Ferraro, Samuel

Social media political ads should be held to the same requirements as political ads in other media such as tv and newspaper are held to.

Comments provided by :
Fisher, Andrea

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 :
Fitzpatrick, John

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, Google and other 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.

Comments provided by :
fletch, aria

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.

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 :
Font, Tristan

Please require that on-line political advertisements have a disclaimer stating who is paying for them, just as television, radio, and print political advertisements must have. Given the shenanigans of the last election this seems to be one easy way get to the bottom of who is manipulating public opinion. Of course, the use of political action committees may obscure what is truly going on. I would like for those to have to reveal their donors, at least their primary donors, as well. And, while we are at it, money is not speech and corporations are not people, but I guess that is beyond your purview.

Comments provided by :
Forrest, Sharon

Good or bad, the internet in various forms is my major source of news.....and I am not alone in this characterization. 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 still include references to telegrams and typewriters, and as such, most certainly don't require adequate disclosure for online ads. This is paramount for the continuation of our democracy!

I, and my fellow Americans, have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements, and as such, how to use this information ?whether it be organizations with ties to outside countries like Russia or wealthy special interests here at home.

There is reportedly strong evidence that Russian nationals used social media platforms like Facebook to interfere with our 2016 election. We need to use every available method at our disposal ? including eliminating secret online political ads ? to prevent a situation like the above or some other from happening again.

Since the FEC is the agency charged with making sure campaign finance rules are followed - it seems prudent to begin working on the transparency of social media/on-line platforms to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages. Thank you for sincere consideration of my comments.

Comments provided by :
Foster, Dawn

Hello,

I would like to ask that the FEC require online campaign ads to disclose who is paying for them, just as is on television and in print. The Internet is a powerful new medium and needs to be recognized as such and that includes the kind of transparency that protects the public's wellbeing and the fundamentals our democracy. Requiring disclosure for who funds campaign ads on the Internet is just as necessary as the print and television mediums. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Andrew Fox

Comments provided by :
Fox, Andrew

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.

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.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Frank, Robert

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 :
Frank, Robert

Citizens have the right to know who is financing whose election campaigns and the amounts. How much did which Russians pay into Trump's campaign? Present allegations and the former campaign manager's indictment make this even more important. thank you for providing a forum for this vital issue to be out in the open. Seems sad that money buys elections in the USA, but this seems to be the reality we live in. Transparency and full disclosure will alleviate this flaw in our system.

Comments provided by :
Franklin, L G

Loopholes are unacceptable under any circumstance. They allow unscrupulous people to get away with things other people would be jailed for. Justice must be for everyone. Nobody should be above the law, regardless of wealth or status.

Comments provided by :
Freeman, Beth Jane

The internet is increasingly the major source of information for most people. 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.

Overwhelmingly, Americans want to know who pays for political 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.

As a citizen and a voter, I want the FEC to act immediately to update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them. Voters have the right to know the truth.

Comments provided by :
Fremaux, Charlotte

Given all we continue to learn of the extent of foreign interference in our election process via targeted digital advertising, it is of the utmost importance that we ensure complete transparency around who is purchasing political advertising on the internet. If we have the sense to require this in other forms of advertising, why not this form--which is arguably the most powerful at this moment in history. We need to know who's trying to influence our vote--otherwise we are selling our sacred democracy to whoever's got the funds to buy those ads, without even knowing it.

Please require ALL political advertising to identify the entity who has purchased it.

Comments provided by :
Galdo, Querido

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.

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 :
Gallagher, Margaret

Ladies/Gentlemen:

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!

Most sincerely,

Sarah Woodside Gallagher

Comments provided by :
Gallagher, Sarah

Political advertisements ALL, whether print, radio, television, or internet, should disclose the fact that it is an ad and also cite who is paying for it.

Comments provided by :
Garber, Sandra

We have all seen what a DISASTER that "Citizens United" has been! The uninterrupted pouring of campaign funds into the election process has led to undue influence by those individuals and groups with deeper pockets, i.e. larger funds.

PLEASE STOP this hemorrhaging of influence peddling! END UNLIMITED CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS!

Comments provided by :

Garfield, Dave

It's important to most people to have a disclaimer on all political ads, so we know exactly who is presenting this information.

Comments provided by :
Garidel, Gloria

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

Thank you.

Comments provided by :

garza, alvaro

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Why not come to my House and watch these ads (many are quite false) and then find that no-one is 'really' responsible. It's like being a captive audience for a Show which I never (ever) paid for.

C'mon over. I'll get the Refreshments!

Sincerely,

Julian Goldberg
Citizen

Comments provided by :
Goldberg, Julian

Regarding FEC disclosure requirements,

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,

G Goodwin

Comments provided by :

Goodwin, Greg

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.

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 :
Gowans, Coleen

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.

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 :
Granat, Gary

Many people like me get much of their information from online sources. We need to understand the context the information is being provided in. Who is providing it is critical. Information from anonymous sources is frequently provided with an agenda in mind. All information we receive needs to be fully sourced to understand what agenda it may serve.

Please make sure that all information provided on the internet is sourced.

Comments provided by :

Grant, George

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 everything 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 :
Gray, Alisanne

For better or worse, most Americans rely on the Internet for information, including information vital to their role as citizens. Current rules governing online advertising are anachronistic, inadequate and in need of revision.

The evidence that public opinion has been manipulated by secretive parties in the recent election is overwhelming.

It is the responsibility of the FEC to make sure this cannot happen, by appropriate and consistent rulemaking to achieve the transparency citizens have a right to expect.

Comments provided by :
Gray, Hod

We should be moving toward getting private money out of politics. Political office should be held by the best-qualified candidate, not the candidate who raised the most money, or contributed the most of his/her own money. At the very least, we should be able to clearly see who paid for campaign advertisements. Voters should know who is bankrolling a particular candidate, and consider what that says about the candidates motives and obligations.

Comments provided by :
Grodnicki, Lauren

According to the Rootstrikers Team for Progress:

"Here are some talking points to make it easy to write your personal public comment to the FEC:

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.

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."

Thank you for reading my message

Comments provided by :
Guttmann, Geoffrey

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.

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 :

Guzman, Peter

I use the internet for all my news and current affairs. It is imperative that all political advertising be clearly tagged with the source name and sponsors so a user of the internet can make measured assessment of its message and content. How do we know if the ad is fabrication unless we can trace the source and know their motivations and political affiliations. Give us a chance to make good decisions with reliable information on political ad sources. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Hageman, Warren

To the FCC, After the debacle of thousands of divisive Russian posts during the 2016 election, you need to update your regulations: Mandate a disclaimer stating who has paid for each and every political ad on social media.

Comments provided by :
Hamann, Karl

We need transparency for online advertisement, just as we have for other forms of advertising. The majority of Americans use the internet as their primary source of information and have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements. There is a lot of evidence that organizations connected to the Russian government used online advertisements to interfere with the 2016 election, and updating the language of our current laws will help prevent that from happening again.

Comments provided by :
Hamblet, Brandy

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.

Comments provided by :
Hancock, Peter

While millions are being spent on hearings about false advertising via outside agents, at least part of the problem would easily be solved with an FCC requirement of WHO is paying for ads. I support transparency and full disclosure.

Comments provided by :
Hans, Cindy

We need stronger disclosure requirements for online ads. The public deserves to know who is paying for online ads.

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.

Comments provided by :
Harland, Donald

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. 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 :
Harris, jJudith

I am concerned that dark money from the likes of Crossroads PAC is being used to buy ads without notifying those that might see those ads on the internet. Whoever is buying ad space (including non-political ads) should be identified in the ad.

Comments provided by :
Harrison, Jeffrey

The FEC should institute new rules for internet/social media, that require notification as to whom is posting/creating/paying for an ad, as with other forms of media.

We can't have Russians subliminally affecting uninformed voters. This is akin to a cold war!

Comments provided by :
Harvey, Kay

Russian actors used social media platforms to interfere with the 2016 election. We need to ensure this never happens again, we need to end secret online political ads.

Comments provided by :
Hastings, Paul

Only idiots and people deliberately deceiving voters would treat online ads differently than others, failing to treat them the same should be considered treason.

Comments provided by :
Hathaway, Devin

Exactly why would anyone not want this loophole closed, when closing it is clearly in the interests of protecting and preserving our democracy?

Comments provided by :
Haugen, Valerie

There is no transparency for online political ads. I want to know the source of information about elections. It is the right of citizens to determine when we are under inappropriate influence that undermines our ability to choose our elected officials based on accurate information, not propaganda.

Comments provided by :
Haworth, Patricia

We are clearly unable to differentiate real news from fake news, unable to identify sources of what we consume on the internet. As a country, we need laws to protect our democracy from fake news and outside interference from adversaries. It's as simple as that. Enact rules of transparency to protect consumers on online ads.

Comments provided by :
Haynes, JeVerna

It is only fair and equal treatment that all political ads in ANY MEDIUM contain the name of the person or entity paying for the ads.

The debacle of Russian 'interference' in recent elections serves as an example of why.

Comments provided by :
Healingline, Helgaleena

American democracy has been seriously compromised, if not permanently damaged by the flooding of the electorate by dark money lies and deception. At the very least we need honest disclosure of who buys what propaganda and their vested interest in the outcome. Until then we, as a nation cannot honestly call ourselves a democracy.

Comments provided by :
Heisler, robert

I am writing to ask you to NOT change rules regarding the internet to make it harder for people like me to access information, communicate, or make purchases via the internet.

Comments provided by :
Hemm, Joan

In the recent 2016 election, 65% of Americans identified the internet as their main source for information. As an American, I have the right to know who is paying for all the political ads that are being posted all over the internet, yet, our outdated transparency rules are severely lacking and don't require adequate disclosure of online ads. Strong evidence has come to light that those in other countries used the social platform of Facebook to interfere with the election. To prevent this from ever happening again, we need to use everything we've got to close up the loopholes that are in our current transparency rules and end secret online ads. You can easily do this by ensuring Americans know where ALL the political ads are coming from and who is paying for them.

Comments provided by :
Hendrickson, Alex

Please require that Internet advertisements disclose their source. 78% of US wants these protections, including 80% of registered Republicans. We deserve and need these disclosures.

Comments provided by :
Henjum, Irene

Dear Sir or Madam,

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.

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.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Henry, Elizabeth

Transparency is essential to democracy.

Comments provided by :
hill, lauren

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.

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 :

Hink, Lani

WE THE PEOPLE HAVE TO KNOW whether or not foreign adversarial powers/entities are donating to OUR candidates for office in THIS (OR) country!!!

We also should know whether or not FASCIST, ARYAN WHITE SUPREMACIST NAZI organizations are backing a candidate or not!!!!!!!

Comments provided by :
Hinkes, David

The FEC needs to update its regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them. Online platforms of one kind or another are the leading source of information for most Americans. We need to know who's paying for what ads to make informed decisions as citizens. Current regulations are seriously outdated and don't require adequate disclaimers for online ads. It's time for the FEC to catch up.

Comments provided by :
Hodges, Grace

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

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.

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.

This is not a partisan issue. It is a matter of common sense.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Hoffman, Ann

Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads!
Follow the money! This is a fundamental principle in political fact finding
that is critical for Americans to protect themselves from nefarious sources.
If the money comes from Vladimir Putin, or the Koch Brothers, or ISIS,
Americans need to know the source!

Comments provided by :
Holleman, Christopher

Now that we know that in the 2016 election some people deliberately put false information online, it is critical for our democracy that people can see the source of information to help them decide whether or not the information is reliable.

Comments provided by :
Hollemon, Sally

It is deeply disturbing that a majority of Americans are now getting their "news" from sources that are not only unvetted, but worse, unknown to them. People who use social media need to know where their information is coming from and who is paying for it to be sent. Failure to act on this issue will ensure that we have a misinformed, manipulated electorate that will threaten the foundations of our democratic government.

Comments provided by :
Holstein, Suzy Clarkson

The FEC should require disclaimers for political ads on social media the same as are required for television and print ads. More than three-fourths of our citizens believe this is important. We need to use every means possible to prevent meddling in our elections from outside sources.

Comments provided by :
Homer, Deanna

I want to know who is paying for internet political ads.

Comments provided by :
Honer-Orton, M.

It is critical that we require transparency and disclosure in all aspects of election campaigns. With the increased public use and influence of the Internet, it is even more important that we require full disclosure of individuals and institutions (and governments!) who pay for political ads posted in social media. The FEC must do all it can to ensure full disclosure and that online campaign advertising MUST include disclaimers about who is intact paying for those ads.

Our democracy is at risk when there is undue, and unknown, influence in our election process. American voters must have full confidence in our election system and full knowledge of those who are paying for political ads.

Please be vigilant - please keep American strong and vibrant with transparency and openness in our elections.

Comments provided by :
Hoo, Gloria

I believe it is critical to identify who is paying for political ads on the Internet. Thank you for requesting feedback from the public.

Comments provided by :
Hooker, Patricia

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.

Comments provided by :

Hope, Phillip

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. That is one reason these rules have not been updated. We have been using the internet for decades, and that has allowed misuse and abuse of the rules.

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. We already know the gun lobby alone , sponsored by the NRA of which I am a member, has contributed huge sums of money to republican candidates who refuse to do the right thing.

There is strong evidence Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to interfere with the 2016 election. It is a known fact that Russians have conducted the same activity in other countries as well, manipulating the outcome of elections. 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.

America is a DEMOCRACY, only it isn't. It is run like a dictatorship, with no separation of powers, no accountability, no regard for the Constitution of the United States of America. The elected officials and appointed officials do not take the oath of office seriously. They know they can do as they like with NO ACCOUNTABILITY, and take money from whom they like, peddling influence to wealthy donors and corporations. "Trickle down economics" was DEBUNKED decades ago, yet they are still beating this same tired drum. AMERICANS WANT A GOVERNMENT THAT IS RESPONSIVE AND REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PEOPLE. They know that is NOT what they have, and they have had enough.

Comments provided by :
Hopkins, Kathleen

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.

Comments provided by :

House, Darrell

I am commenting today to voice my opinion that we need more transparency in our elections notifications and advertisements. It is important that Citizens of our country be able to clearly identify the source of information being provided so that they may make fact based, informed decisions about candidates, platforms, and viewpoints.

I have been told that 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. This language and concept must be brought into the 21st century.

It is my opinion that 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. It is often too difficult to ascertain what source is providing the information and what the motivation might be to distribute the particular information.

Obfuscation, secrecy, and misleading hidden information is never a path to enlightenment.

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.

Please do all that you can to correct these antiquated and irrelevant ideas to protect and support clarity in our internet and other sources of political advertising here in our struggling representative democracy.

Thank you for your efforts in this area.

Comments provided by :

Huber, Daniel

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

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

Comments provided by :
Hudley, Cynthia

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.

For that reason, if for no other, we need to have open information about who is buying the elections.

Sincerely,
Philip Huffsmith

Comments provided by :
Huffsmith, Philip

For the 2016 election, a majority of American voters identified the internet as their main source of information; however, in the case of political ads on the internet - unlike political ads on television, inadequate disclosure regulations often left voters unable to identify who was paying for the advertising.

In order to assess bias, voters need to know who is funding such ads. In order to assess outside interference, voters need to know if a foreign power or group is funding the ads.

The FEC has responsibility for campaign finance rules, making the FEC a logical choice of agency to monitor and to make absolutely transparent all financial contributors to political advertising.

In the interest of preserving our democracy, I urge the commission to accept this responsibility with all possible speed.

Thank you for your attention.

Comments provided by :
Hullinger, Virginia

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.

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.

The FEC should want to facilitate fair and honest elections in the United States. Veiled propaganda ads diminish our democratic process and jeopardize the very core of our democracy. The FEC should be willing to support a fair and honest democratic process.

Comments provided by :
Hunter, Linda

We need transparency when it comes to online political ads. It is very difficult to judge bias and veracity when the sources of information are obscured. Functioning democracy is contingent upon the ability of citizens to gather, disseminate and implement information.

Comments provided by :
Hurt, Valerie

Our democracy depends on robust, transparent debate. Online advertisements should be required to have the same level of transparency as we have for political ads on television.

Thanks for all you do.

Comments provided by :
Iszauk, Steven

Thank for taking this subject (political advertising) under consideration. It is absolutely necessary to protect our democracy to require that the source of money spent to influence public opinion on governance be revealed to everyone.

Thank you

John Jaffray

Comments provided by :
Jaffray , John W.

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 :
Jakusz, Darlene

It is only fair to require ads especially political ones to disclose who paid for them. You would not accept this comment without knowing who I am. Please do the right thing for our democracy, thank you.

Comments provided by :
janus, james

It's long past time that the FEC updates its digital rules to ensure that online political ads list who is paying for them, especially with the Russians running amok online and interfering with our past election. Our sovereignty depends on transparency.

Comments provided by :
Janzen, Gayle

U.S. elections should be about U.S. voters not special interests ? and especially not about the secretive influence of hostile foreign governments and entities. We must use every lever at our disposal ? including ending secret online political ads ? to prevent meddling in our elections and to ensure that Americans know the source of political messages. 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. Please require online campaign ads to include disclosure about who is paying for them - like television and print advertisements.

Comments provided by :
Jariwala, Ariane

When I see a political ad, the first question in my mind is: who is paying for this ad? In order to assess the value of political ad content, it is absolutely required to know who supports the opinions with their money. If I cannot ascertain the sponsor of a particular political ad, then I discount its credibility.

In a democracy, public information is sourced for clarity to all. I would hope we still have a democracy.

Comments provided by :
joaquin, claire

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.

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 :

Johanson, Erica

The American people are "screwed", because our politicians are nothing but whores, self-serving, "Bernie Madoff" greed mentality lackards who need to be drawn and quartered, if there was truly such a thing as "justice"!

Comments provided by :
Johnson, Lee

Consumers deserve to know who is behind political advertising on the internet. Russian interference was especially pervasive in the 2016 election. Facebook, Google and Twitter have all acknowledged finding foreign political ads that ran during this election. Ads based on falsehoods and which played on people's biases and fears went unchallenged because no one was required to check on their source. Every ad for a national candidate should disclose sponsorship, and there must be a method for such sponsorship to be verified as coming from a U.S. citizen or group. There should be NO secret online political ads. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Jozwiak, Mary

In this land awash with political money, where every our treasured "one person -- one vote" principle has been weakened to the point where it is truer to say we have a "one dollar -- one vote" system, we need at least to know whose money is buying what. Please require that online ads disclose this information. Without it, our democracy is slowly crumbling.

Comments provided by :
Judd, Fors

I believe in transparency. It is essential for democracy. Even those who place online ads should have to disclose who is paying for those ads. 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 U.S. presidential 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.

Comments provided by :

Juhl, Brandon

Online ads are becoming a staple of election campaigns. Voters need to know who is sponsoring them, as we require of print and television political ads. The new technology does not diminish voters the need for transparency. Updating the regulations to encompass the advances in communications technology is necessary to the integrity of our elections.

Comments provided by :
Kacen, Norma

Since it now appears that foreign entities are doing a good job of placing inciteful pictures and verbage all across social media, the source of this material should be transparent to the readers.

Comments provided by :
kaspersin, Jackie

I support updating the FCC's disclosure requirements to end the online ad loophole. I want to know who's paying for online ads, be they political or otherwise. A lot of illicit activities are being bought and paid for anonymously, and a lot of abuse could be prevented if we just knew the funding source behind it.

Comments provided by :

Kay, Sasha

Dear Federal Election Commissioners,

It is getting more and more difficult to believe in the results of our US elections. In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information.

But our transparency rules are outdated and don't require adequate disclaimers for online ads.

Seventy-eight percent of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms (according to a new Marist poll). And 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 :

Kean, Rosemary

There needs to be accountability in political advertising, which includes the internet.

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.

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 :
Keenan, Dylan

There is no question now as to whether the Russians interfered in the presidential election campaign of 2016. They used the internet and social media to influence voters, now determined to be in the neighborhood of 150 million viewers.

To stop foreign actors from causing discord and confusion by means of a deliberate campaign of lies, the public must know who is behind the messages.

We must have sunshine in our campaign ads to keep elections from being infected and swayed by means of sabotage.

Comments provided by :
Kelly, Barbara

Over half of Americans get their information from online sources. Yet due to our transparency rules, there is not adequate disclosure for online ads. We have the right to know the source of these ads, whether from enemies of our country, such as Russia, China, N. Korea and some countries (terrorists) in the Middle East, or from wealthy special interests in our country or from international corporations.

We now know that Russian government backed organizations used social media platforms (Facebook) to interfere with our election, to create divisiveness with the goal of creating chaos in our country and to bring down our democracy.

The only way to protect our country from this interference is to prevent secret online ads, to prevent this from happening again. We have a right to know the source of political messages.

Our Democracy depends on robust, transparent debate and your agency, the FEC, is charged with ensuring that campaign finance rules are followed. Please require the same level of transparency for online ads as we have for political ads on radio and television

Comments provided by :
KELLY, JOANNE

The FEC should require online campaign ads to include information about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements. We have a right to know who is paying for ads, whether an individual, national or international organization! No more Russian interference in our elections that is hidden!

Comments provided by :
Kemp, Eileen

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.

78 percent of all Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms (according to a new Marist poll).

Comments provided by :
Kent, Jan

The majority of Americans now go to the Internet as their main source of information, but our government's transparency rules are outdated and do not require adequate disclosure for online ads.

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

There is strong evidence Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to interfere with the 2016 election. We need 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, and the FCC should develop rules require the same level of transparency for online ads as for political ads on television.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Keys, Kay

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 :
Kimber, Greg

Since 65% of voters in the 2016 election were dependent on online platforms for news and information, online ads need to be subject to the same transparency laws as print, radio and TV. Whether it is Russia or local powerful interests, American citizens deserve to know who is funding the ads that seek to influence their votes.

Comments provided by :
Kimble, Dawn

Ads on line are so many, and if I do look at one, it usually turns out to be for something other than what was originally stated.

I would appreciate it if the placement of the ads were accompanied by a clearly stated source, i.e., a corporation, which one exactly; a political group, which one and paid by what person; a scientific paper, written by what scientist, paid for by which corporation, government, special interest group, etc.

Reading about what is going on is important to me but I do not want to waste my time plunging into wordy articles that lead to places I never want to go.

I believe our Democracy depends upon an educated populace and the FEC, if handling this correctly, can keep deceptive information sources from clouding issues with "fake" news and outright lies.

Comments provided by :
King, Marguerite

Transparency rules re: political advertisement funding **MUST** be applied to internet ads as they are to all other media.

Comments provided by :

King, Matt

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

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

Over three quarters of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms, according to a new Marist poll -- including 80 percent of Republicans and 82 percent of Independents.

The FEC needs to act immediately to update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them.

Comments provided by :
Kirby, M

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.

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.

Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Comments provided by :
Klass, David

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

Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads. The importance of this "right to know" has been highlighted by allegations of campaign collusion with Russia in the recent national elections. We need to use every lever at our disposal to prevent further meddling in future elections, and to ensure that voters 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. Transparency rules are outdated and should be updated to remove references to telegrams and typewriters and updated to include online advertisements.

In fact, I understand that 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.

Thank you for your attention.

Comments provided by :
Kleinschnitz, C.

Put the truth on the front page.

Comments provided by :
knapp, harry

We must require that all political ads on the internet clearly identify who is paying for the ad. There is too much money in American politics and part of making sure that the public understands the influence of money is making sure that the public knows exactly who (and what organization) is paying for what political ad.

Comments provided by :
Knoth, Maeve

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.
Please get real lets try to make our Democracy a little more fare

Comments provided by :
Korhonen, Willis

In this day and age, disclosures that don't include disclosures about online ads are woefully inadequate. So many people get their information from the Web that the Web is what newspapers used to be. Please close the online ad loophole.

Comments provided by :
Kraft, Stephanie

Identifying an advertiser on the internet brings it up to the same standard as print and other electronic, i.e. television and radio advertising. AN informed person is usually can make an informed decision. Allowing fir more information, not less, is a good and necessary thing.

Comments provided by :
Kraus, Glenn

It is critical that all political ads are transparent with regards to their funding sources. This is regardless of the medium on which they are displayed or consumed by the American public. Please ensure all online political ads are clear to indicate where they originated / who is funding them.

Comments provided by :
Krause, Kevin

I urge the FEC to require all online ads to include a disclaimer disclosing the true source of funding for the ad. Further, I urge that this be done in a transparent way so that names of real funders are required, not deceptive front organizations. (I approve of California's new DISCLOSE Act in this regard.)

Dark money in politics is a very serious problem for America. Please take this action to help ensure that the actual supporters behind ads are clearly identified.

Comments provided by :
Kremer, James

Dear Friends:

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.

Please consider updating your disclosure rules so that we know who is sponsoring online ads and whether or not we can trust the content.

Comments provided by :
Krempa, Nancy

Make all Internet POLITICAL ADS show WHO THE FUNDERS ARE!!!

Comments provided by :
Krist, James

The FEC MUST require online ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them so we voters can identify candidates who are tied to special interest groups.

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.

No matter if it's organizations with ties to Russia or shadowy nonprofits funded by the Koch Brothers, Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads.

Comments provided by :
Kuntz, Laurie

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.

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.

-David

Comments provided by :
Langner, David

AMERICA'S DEMOCRACY IS BEING DECIMATED!

Especially in lieu of Russia's interference in the 2016 election, it is vitally necessary that the FEC bring its transparency and disclosure rules into the 21st century!

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

Americans need to know who is funding political ads online!

Comments provided by :
LaSchiava, Dona

The public deserves to know who is funding ads for political purposes in ALL media, including ads on the internet. It only makes sense.

Comments provided by :
Le Fevre, Dale

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.

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 :
Leader, Joan

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 :
Lebovitz, Dorothy

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.

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.

Thanks for all you do.

Sincerely,
Madeleine Lee

Comments provided by :
Lee, Madeleine

Dear Commissioners,

Please ensure that voters have access to information regarding funding for political 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.

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.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Leech, Nancy

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.

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 :

Levin, Beth

There is strong evidence that foreign countries attempted to influence the outcome of the 2016 presidential election.

It is outrageous that online political ads do not have to be labeled as such and also labeled with the name of the funding person or organization for the ad.

Thank you kindly for allowing this form of feedback.

Abe Levy
Bonita Springs FL 34134

Comments provided by :
Levy, Abe

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

Current transparency rules are hopelessly outdated. They still include references to telegrams and typewriters, but they do not require adequate disclosure for online ads.

Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements and which groups or special interests are supporting any given candidate or legislation.

Please update FEC disclosure requirements to end this online ad loophole.

Comments provided by :
Lieberman, Sharon

In last year's election, more than half of Americans got the majority of their voting information via the Internet. And we know now that foreign agents actively interfered in the election through social media and other Internet platforms. Domestically-sourced ads can be misleading as well.

Let's take a stand now to stop the deception. I ask the FEC to update regulations to require online political ads to include information identifying who or what entity paid for them.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Lindahl

Comments provided by :
Lindahl, Kenneth

I feel very strongly that internet advertising, on platforms such as facebook, etc. should be held to the same standards as political ads in traditional media. ?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. We deserve to know where the ads are coming from in order to judge for ourselves whether or not the information contained is trustworthy. Thank you.

Comments provided by :

Link, Michael

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.

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 :
Lock, David

Please update the regulations to online political ads to the same funding transparency as tv ads.

Comments provided by :
Loffswold, Michelle

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.

NO MORE SECRETS!!!!

Comments provided by :
Lopez, John

It only makes sense to require anyone or organization using the internet for political campaign promotion to identify who is pays the bill for using this sort of communication just as the case with TV. It should not take a lot of debate to figure this out that such a requirement is in the public interest. That is one of the purposes of the Federal Election Commission, right?

Comments provided by :
Losasso, Charles

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.

Our transparency rules are outdated and should be updated to include online advertisements.

According to the League of Women Voters, 78 percent of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms.

Comments provided by :
Lowe, Jessica

As usual, and very obviously,
consumers are much more in need of protection and of civilized consideration than are our communications providers.

Terrible choices (Verizon vs Spectrum, wowie, one-sided take-it-or-leave-it business arrangements, and the case of Verizon, non-delivery of promised improvements now long overdue.
Unvetted advertising, Robocall operations who are after all bigger tel customers than I am.

Above or outside the laws of the country and of common decency, if they get their way. Now they want the right to make us all feel worse, congratulations.
Sinclair's monopoly will be the most fun since Rupert Murdoch came to town, as well. WON'T IT??

Sign me resentful and disgruntled.

Comments provided by :
Lowenthal, Steven

Please protect our democracy by requiring internet ads to disclose who paid for them.

Comments provided by :
Lowry, Jacqueline

To whom it may concern at the FEC,

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

Yet unfortunately, our extremely 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.

Respectfully,
Darcy

Comments provided by :
Lubbers, Darcy

Social media should be required to state who is paying for any ads just like television and radio. No ads should be accepted from foreign sources. Thank you, Teri

Comments provided by :
Luttrell-Rowan, Teri

People should know who is sponsoring ads. I believe that this should require the names of actual people, not organizations with bland names like "people for doing the right thing".

Comments provided by :
Lutzker, Daniel

Need to be aware of ads or other requests for aid involving requests for help involving money,time,and any other requests to be made in clear simple direct language that can be understood be all people. Do not want to be manipulated by false requests which is why disclosure is needed to know who is making this request for my money, time and efforts for help.

Comments provided by :
Mac Phail, Jack

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

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

Comments provided by :

MacEntee, Rachel

I wanted to comment in support of rules changes regarding Internet advertising transparency. If the Russians have taught us anything, it is that transparency is a basic necessity if we are going to protect our democracy from outside influences and manipulation. I say this not from a political perspective, but rather an American point-of-view. No matter the target of the advertisement, I should be able to discern who might be funding or providing the content for that ad, so I know its validity and perspective. Lacking this type of transparency allows outside influences, with malice aforethought towards our democratic values, to promote false dialogue and foment divisiveness among all Americans.

Please update the rules to reflect the current state of our advertising ecosystem -- namely that the Internet dominates, and our rules concentrate on TV, radio and print advertising with no controls on the Web. **CLOSE THE ONLINE LOOPHOLE.**

Comments provided by :
Mackey, Robert

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. This is not a privilege but a right.

Comments provided by :
Maghakian, Carol

I want to know who is paying for political ads. Transparency is important. Democracy depends on transparency. Now that the Russians are sabotaging our elections through social media, it's more important than ever to know who is paying for political ads.

Comments provided by :
Magne, Kathy

We need new rules for internet advertising that will identify those who sponsor them so that the public is made aware of their sources.

Comments provided by :
Mahnke, Douglas

I am writing to urge the FEC to require online political ads to disclose who paid for them. In the 2016 election, 65% of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. Yet our outdated transparency rules don't require adequate disclaimers for online ads. According to a recent Marist poll, 78% of Americans want full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. I call on the FEC to immediately update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Mallam, Karen

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

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.

Thank you,
Jeanne Mann

Comments provided by :
Mann, Jeanne

I'm deeply concerned about the role of the FEC in the transparency of online ads. The FEC needs to update its disclosure requirements to include online ads. Campaign finance rules need to be followed, and Americans have a right to know who is trying to sway their vote.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Comments provided by :

Manns, Marianna

If we don't know who's paying for an ad, how can we even start to judge whether we trust them and what they're saying?

Comments provided by :
March, Larissa

Requiring online ads to revealing their source of funding would help ensure fair democracy by forcing dark money groups to reveal themselves.

Comments provided by :
Marick, Paul

Net Neutrality is critical in our current culture. It is the primary way we get news and communicate on many different parts of our lives and livelihood. It is critical for people with disabilities who are limited in leaving their home and those unable to afford travel but want to stay in tune with the world around them.

The internet is a utility just as our telephone service which allows for free communication without having to pay for each phone call or depending on the content of our conversations.

If true, is it unfortunate that there are people, some in very prominent places, that will abuse our technology for illegal purposes. However, the public at large must not be punished for these aberrations.

My concern is that the use of Facebook for political interference is just an excuse to allow censorship for the public. It is true that with every illegality that occurs some people in power begin to call for more regulations that will work mainly to repress the public's civil liberties. I fear this episode with Russia will be used that way even if the whole affair proves untrue.

It is more true that political maneuverings are much more threatening to our democracy from home grown American politicians and the billionaire 1%.

I also wish to say that transparency is the real issue. And in this regard it is imperative that the public know who is paying for ads and influencing the content of what we are presented. This seems to be more the central issue. Thus, your energy needs to be focused on creating regulations that force those who pay for advertising be made known to all.

I am reminded of the same issue in the medical industry where medical journals are considered a primary way for medical information to be shared with that community. However, it became known that drug corporations were controlling what studies were to be printed and which ones not. The public has been suffering from this lack of transparency since so many of those studies were done by drug corporations selling their own product and many of those studies were poor if not outright fraudulent. More than 50% of the articles fall into these categories. This scandal demanded that people putting their names on studies needed to reveal who paid for the study and any potential conflict of interest. We have the same situation with Facebook and similar social media. Doctors were not penalized for this scandal, and neither should we, the public be penalized for the illegal and unethical behavior of some whether they are nations, politicians, or people with hateful philosophies.

Comments provided by :
marquette, tanya

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.

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.

END the CORRUPTION. Integrity is the key.

Comments provided by :

Martin, Patti

Stop being UGH and do something good with your existence for once.

Comments provided by :
Maruska, Korah

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.

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 :
Mathis, Gary

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

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 :
Mathison, Amy

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

Comments provided by :
Matthews, C.A.

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans named the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. However, these online sources of information are not required to have adequate disclaimers for ads. Most Americans, more than 75%, want full disclosure regarding who paid for political ads on social media sites. I ask the FEC to act promptly to revise and update regulations to require that online political ads have disclaimers that identify who paid for them.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :

May, Dianne

Some countries completely Ban ads.

Seems to work well enough to keep their systems free of false and misleading, as well of foreign nationals interests from polluting the system,

Why can't we have nice things?

Comments provided by :

McCarty, David

We have a right, and a NEED, to know exactly WHO is responsible for (who is paying for) political ads we are exposed to. When 65% of Americans say they get their news and information from the Internet or a particular online platform we need to make certain that people have the ability to "consider the source" when viewing ANY kind of advertising, political or otherwise.

Our democracy DEPENDS upon transparency.

Comments provided by :
McConnell, Kelly

Dear Sirs:

I urge you to update your disclosure rules to end the internet loophole.

As you know very well, many if not most people get their news through the internet. You need to ensure that your rules take account of the changing technologies.

Our citizens have a right to know who is funding all political ads. I'm not particularly worried about the Russians, rather about all the slimy homegrown political parties, PACs, and action committees.

We need to know who is paying for the propaganda we see on line.

Please update your disclosure requirements!

Sincerely,

Teresa McFarland

Comments provided by :
McFarland, Teresa

I am a rational person and a critical thinker.

I want to know

- a) the source(s) of information I read, and
- b) who is paying to put that information before me, and
- c) to what purpose/for what purpose that information is being conveyed to me.

If statements of fact are being asserted, I want to know what kind of facts.

Allegations are not facts.

Opinions are not facts.

The Big Lie, for example, as used by Donald Trump about almost anything & as used by the Republican Party regarding Benghazi are not facts.

Political Messages need to be labeled as such. Who pays for them needs to be declared.

Comments provided by :
Meeker, Tobias

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.

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 :
Meersman, Larry

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 :

Meier, Kathleen

Knowledge is power. People in a democracy need to know the source of information to better determine the bias and accuracy of that information.

Comments provided by :
Mertz, Robert A.

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.

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 :
Michaels, Ward

Our democracy has never been under attack as it is now. What once seemed like the inevitable destiny of mankind, looks more like a brief shining Camelot moment.

If we cannot stop the murder of Truth, even when committed in the light of day, democracy is done.

Comments provided by :
Micocci, Jonathan

As the agency charged with making sure campaign finance rules are followed, it is the FEC's job to require the same level of transparency for online ads as television political ads. We, the People, have the right to know who is paying for political advertisements. Step up & enforce the People's rights to know who the source of the message is in order to make a decision on whether or not to support a candidate.

Thanks for your time.

Comments provided by :

Migdal, Katey

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. In this fast-paced, 24-hour news cycle age we are living in we need transparency in our political system. Americans need to make informed decisions -without the FEC requiring disclosure of who is paying for political advertisements, how can we be sure our decisions are sound?

Comments provided by :
Mignola, Lynn

Governments are instituted among mankind deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. There can be no legitimate consent where elections are influenced by secret funding of political advertising.

It is crucial for the survival of our democracy that voters not only see the what of political advertising, but see the who also.

Comments provided by :
Moden, Merle L.

The Internet is the primary source for information and exchange of information here and abroad. It ought to be free and open to all, but even so we all ought to openly stand up for and admit to our opinions and stances, by name and address. This is especially true for opinions and information put forward on elections in this and other countries, particularly in light of the recent proof of hacking and clandestine ads put forward by Russians in our last presidential election.

Disclosure of the source of opinions and information--whether true or not, or matter of opinion or rumor--is NOT an intrusion of privacy, it is an exercise of RESPONSIBILITY, a concept which is fundamental to our governmental organization, and to free speech and intellectual freedom, and to the exercise of our Article 2 Constitutional rights.

Thomas E. Moore

Comments provided by :
Moore, Thomas E.

Citizens viewing internet campaign ads should be easily able to see whether the candidate has approved the ad and who is paying for it.

Comments provided by :
Moran, Emily

Online and social political ads should be regulated to show who is paying and promoting these ads. By not regulating these ads we are allowing other countries to influence our elections. Transparency is key to a successful democracy.

Comments provided by :
Morel, Will

Transparency, as an idea, applies to everything, and anything. To be transparent, is to be transparent. Leave in place existing rules and regulations, and add to them for strength and date.

Comments provided by :
Morrow, Brandon

All political advertisements and materials, regardless of the format or medium, should be required to reveal their sponsors. The American people have a right to know who is attempting to influence them.

Comments provided by :
Morton-Ewbank, Connie

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.

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 :
Mosier, Akila

The voting American public has a right to know who funds political advertisements intended to sway their votes. Currently, this only applies to television, radio and print ads. However, with the overwhelming popularity of online media these protections need to extend to online political advertisements. This is a simple case of adapting the law to cover evolving technologies that simply didn't exist at the time of the laws writing. I strongly encourage the FEC to support legislation that will force online advertisements to carry the same "paid for by" disclaimer as other political ads.

Comments provided by :
Moulds, Don

So many people rely on the internet for their information--65% of Americans said that the internet or an online platform supplies more of their information during the 2016 elections than any other source. But political ads posted to social media platforms are not required to fully disclose who paid for these ads! Why? 78% of Americans think that this disclosure should be made; in fact that 78% includes 80% of Republicans and 82 % of Independents.

We deserve to know who is pulling the strings or supplying the information. The FEC should immediately act to update its regulations! Online political ads, for instance, should include disclaimers identifying who paid for them. Maybe then we stand some chance of eliminating outside interference with our elections and our policies. Russia and other foreign powers should not be allowed to endorse candidates for American office.

I

Comments provided by :
Mueller, Laura

As a matter of simple transparency and the public's right to know, I urge the FEC to support rules requiring political candidates to reveal the primary funders of their election campaigns.

Comments provided by :
Nahigian, Kenneth

3 things work for us humans to govern ourselves WELL: 1, SHARING power/ distributed power+agency; 2, TRANSPARENCY of information & decision-making--including info. sources & decision-makers' names; and 3, a culture of ACCOUNTABILITY (focused on goals & whether we have accomplished them).

In case you haven't noticed, both America and modern culture around the planet have reached a PRECARIOUS position because of the opposite 3 things:

1, CONCENTRATION of power+control; 2, OBSCURATION-SECRECY-DECEPTION; & 3, a culture of "responsibility" that amounts to a zero-sum CREDIT/BLAME GAME (fighting over who did or didn't do what).

Time to do what works. Democracy works. Read The Wisdom of Crowds.

America will be strong when we know who pays for every political ad, in every medium.

Would you like a strong nation with a future? Do you want a world--a modern culture--that actually works? Stop pursuing dead-end methods and stop flirting with civilization's collapse.

Please wake up and help create robust culture.

Comments provided by :
Narveson, D

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 :
Near, Lori

Nothing that has to do with elections in a democratic country should allow anonymous contributions.

Corporations are not people. Anonymous donors want to remain hidden for a reason. Uncover them.. Nothing beats potential corruption like the light of day!

If the internet users had realized they were reading propaganda from Russia, it might have changed some of their behaviour, to say nothing of potentially changing the outcome of the 2016 election.

shine the light on political ads. we should all know who is behind every one of them!!

Comments provided by :
Needham, Mary

I would like to know who is behind the door and who is paying for the ad.

Comments provided by :
nelson, thomas

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.

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 :
Newberg, Karen

There is strong evidence Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to interfere with the 2016 election. The United States needs to use every option 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. All reports suggest that we have done nothing to prevent this from happening again. There is an additional, though related problem, with spending from PACs and SuperPACs. Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements. Updating laws which govern political advertising, including online advertising, are crucial and overdue.

Comments provided by :
Newhard, Jay

Dear Sir/Madam:

I urge you to update political ads regulation to include political ads posted anywhere on the internet. This is where the regulation is needed as this is where the public is now getting its information. Disclosure of the organization behind the ad is just one requirement that must be applied to internet political advertising. This topic has become all the more urgent as foreign powers manipulate U.S. elections via internet political advertisements.

Thank you.

Julie Anne Newman

Comments provided by :

Newman, Julie Anne

If we are to keep a representative democracy, we need to know who the major contributors to campaigns are and who is advocating for various bills and causes. This is true in television and radio ads, newspapers, and on the internet. Secrecy of this sort undermines our freedoms and our one person one vote standard.

Comments provided by :
Newton, Linda

Transparency is key to the democratic process.

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 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 from within the US.

Please act now to empower American voters with the information they need to make Good decisions on behalf of their families.

Comments provided by :

Nix, Sara

What I want is an open internet that weeds out racist, hateful crap and doesn't allow hostile foreign governments disrupt our society or our voting. I want an internet that works to reduce discord! I want an internet that protects our personal information and operates within strict guidelines that have steep punishments built in for malfeasance.

Comments provided by :
Nowack, Laura

Dear FEC,

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

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
O'Connor, SM

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

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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.

Thank you, John and Jazzmyne Oda

Comments provided by :
Oda , John

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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 :
ODear, Elizabeth

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.

Comments provided by :
O'Donoghue, Clive

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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 :
Ofenloch, Lance

I support a move to require internet ads to disclose who paid for them. We already require this on broadcast TV commercials, and there's no reason it should not be a requirement for the internet, arguably how most people see ads today.

Comments provided by :
Oka, Masaru

Americans have a right to know who is paying for ads on social media platforms.

Comments provided by :
Oleen-Burkey, MerriKay

I am a citizen who tries to keep informed about elections. Informed voting is one of the most important actions one can take to vote responsibly.

I am asking you to take action to require online campaign ads to include disclaimers as to who is paying for them, in the same way that is already being done for television and printed ads.

In addition, the disclaimers should be done in a way that they can be clearly read and that the reader will know exactly who paid for the ad online.

Comments provided by :
Oliver, Nancy

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 :

Olson, Michael

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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 :
Olson, Victoria

We believe we have the right to know who underwrites any political ads on all media including the internet. We want to know where the money is coming from.

Comments provided by :
Oswald, Ben and Cynthia

I believe that all content from social media should be scrutinized by the prevailing companies, and they should be aware and maintain only sources within the United States for election ads.

I am very aware of social media although I don't use all the platforms available.

Only advertising from the US should be allowed, and any interference from outside sources should be banned.

Comments provided by :
Oswald, Kathleen

Dear FEC:

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.

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.

Sincerely:

Tim Oswald

Comments provided by :
Oswald, Tim

I don't know how you can have a democracy if you don't know if the people you are discussing the issues with are arguing in good faith. 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.

we must know that people who disagree are at least expressing their own honest opinion about what they think is right for the country. Please ensure that all funders for all political ads are identified and verified.

Comments provided by :

Page, Andrew

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.
Please help protect our democracy. This is vital to a sustained Republic.

Comments provided by :
Painter, Carol

Aloha,

Deep freedom includes and depends upon freedom of speech. an internet that is restricted and/or made more costly and less open is counter to core American values as well as my strong belief that the airwaves are Public Trust resources. those resources should be made accessible to all members of the public without restriction including content and protection of that access should be the FEC's top responsibility and goal.

thank you for standing strong against net neutrality rules that will limit the freedom and free speech of all Americans.

sincerely,

janice palma-glennie

kailua-kona hawaii

Comments provided by :

palma-glennie, janice

aloha,

i'm writing in support of making full disclosure of advertising sponsorship U.S. law.

Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements. this is clear from the latest shenanigans and obscenity of the breach of the public trust conducted by Russians and perhaps even our own president.

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 upon transparency so that Americans know what to support and what is bad for them and their country. 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.

thank you again for your attention to my views is this most critical matter.

sincerely,
janice glennie

Comments provided by :
palma-glennie, janice

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 should know who is paying for what ad. There needs to be greater transparency.

Comments provided by :
Pape, Ana

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.

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.

Sincerely,
Alexandra D. Pappano

Comments provided by :
Pappano, Alexandra

Political ads funded by foreign agents should be illegal. They should not be allowed to participate in our elective process. Just disclosing funding sources is not enough.

Comments provided by :
Parker, Alice

The FEC should require clear identification of who has paid for online campaign advertising, as is required for television and print advertisements. Americans want to know and have a right to know who is paying for online political advertisements so we can be aware of who is influencing our elections. 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.

Comments provided by :
Parkins, Janet

I feel strongly that there should be a requirement that donors to digital ads are revealed! It is not an excuse that the ads are small. Our US elections require transparency on broadcast ads as well as mailers. Online ads should be no exception. Americans need to know who is trying to influence us.

Thank you,

Kathryn Partridge
2719 Denver Ave
Longmont, CO 80503

Comments provided by :
Partridge, Kathryn

Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements and whether it is organizations with ties to Russia or wealthy special interests here at home. In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified that the internet, or an online platform, was their leading source of information. Yet, they don't require adequate disclosure for online ads. There is strong evidence Russians 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.

Comments provided by :
Pasichnyk, Richard

We've already seen foreign influence and mass buying of ads on social media.

If a foreign country does that in favor of one side, DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE ANOTHER FOREIGN COUNTRY CAN'T DO IT FOR THE OTHER SIDE?

We desperately need to know who paid for the ads!

Protect the United States of America. Require the same "Paid for by----" disclosure for on-line ads that broadcast ads must adhere to.

Comments provided by :
Pastin, Susan S.

The same rules that apply to broadcast and print media should be applied to cybermedia as well. The public interest is served by identifying the source of funding for advertising that seeks to influence public opinion.

Comments provided by :
Patton , William

I am writing because I would like the FEC to update its disclosure requirements in order to end the online ad loophole. 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.

Please update the requirements immediately. Our democracy depends on it.

Thank you for your time.

Comments provided by :

Paulus, Morgan

All Americans have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The moment democracy becomes pay-to-play, it is no longer democracy. For many Americans, the Internet is not just for checking e-mail or checking social media, it is a vital tool for daily life. The Internet MUST remain an open utility. There are no substitutes, no other Internet we can subscribe to. There is just one. I urge you to defend Net Neutrality or be on the wrong side of history. You can either be remembered for your cowardice in helping to bring an end to the greatest country or be remembered like all true heroes for your courage and stand up for what is right.

On that same note, corruption is an enormous cause of the fall of a civilization. Dark money in politics has been instrumental in the decline of our great country. We must have transparency in political funding. 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. I urge you to end secret money in political ads.

Again, the choice is yours. Be remembered for your cowardice and corruption and disgrace your legacy, or as a hero of the people.

Comments provided by :
Pavlovic, Marko

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.

With all the lies going on from all sides, we need to know who the liars are.

Comments provided by :
pearson, tia

Make Facebook, Google, Twitter, and the other 'new media' of the Internet comply with campaign financial disclosure laws.

The so-called 'new media' of the Internet (social media, search engines, news sites, streaming audio, streaming video, etc.) augment or displaced the 'old media'. We have a right to know who is buying advertisements and pushing a political agenda on the Internet. It is past time that all political spending for advertising on the Internet be fully disclosed.

Comments provided by :
Perkins, George

This is simple. My government is and has been duplicitous in it's dealings with the American citizenry. I am nearly eighty and know that governments lie. Ours is the biggest liar of all. Corruption at most levels require these crippling untruths. Uneducated, ignorant primates in suits gerrymander and abuse all rules for voter registration. Elections are stolen and good old boys raise victory drinks. What a stench.

Please demand full disclosure for any and all advertisements of a political-corporate nature. Who is paying? We need to know. I need to know who the Liars are by name rank and interest. Let's do that, fully and honestly.

Thank you

Jim Perry

Comments provided by :
Perry, Jim

Online ads should have the same transparency as tv and radio ads.

Comments provided by :
Perry, Scout

Online advertising is exclusively how I receive campaign advertising. Even just this minor local election in Nov 2017 I am bombarded by internet ads. In particular I have been getting one ad every time I log on to my computer for the past 3 weeks. Its only fair that I should know who is paying for these ads. There is already an extreme lack of transparency in the PACs (Political Action Committees) since financial contributions are able to circumvent both spending limits and transparency requirements through PACs. This is extremely un-American and shows the level of corruption we are dealing with in current times. Although fixing this is the most important thing that can be done to restore genuine Democracy to the United States, ensuring that internet political advertising contains information on who paid for the ad is both extremely helpful for voters to make an informed decision and can help go a long in way in even identifying the PACs that are contributing to candidates, but not listed on their campaign disclosure forms. In light of the extreme lack of transparency and accountability that Citizen's United brought to our country, throwing us to the dark ages and new lows in corruption in elections, disclosure in internet advertising is one small step that can be easily be taken and should be taken to shed a small light of ethics where corruption has taken a stronghold.

Comments provided by :
Peters, Rhonda

In order to ensure fair and impartial elections in the United States, all advertisements for political candidates **MUST** show who is paying for the ads.

This rule must accrue to all types of media ads with no exception - Internet, TV, Radio and print press.

Thank you

Comments provided by :
Petrine, T.

Sixty-five percent of voting Americans in 2016 listed the Internet as their leading source of information for the election. Yet there are no requirements for identification of the source of funding for Internet advertising for political purposes. Please mandate clear funding source identification for any ad, including Internet-based ads (including social media) mandatory and conspicuous. Please make certain that outside sourced ads, such as those from Russia are clearly illegal and make the source and destination of those ads responsible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Comments provided by :
Pope, C. Warren

Disclosure and transparency on who pays for ads on all internet websites and all social media so as to put an end to foreign interference in any future elections or government decisions?

Comments provided by :
Price, Melody

With the amount of fake news that is already on the internet, it only seems reasonable to make sure that voters know exactly who is saying anything about the candidates in order to avoid ads that are outright lies. We find disclosures useful in radio and tv ads. They would be just as useful, if not more so, on internet ads.

Comments provided by :
Pugh, Elena

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.

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.

Thanks for all you do,
Doug

Comments provided by :
Quackenbush, Douglas

Political or Divisive Messages (that is, other than simply commercial) Must be IDENTIFIED as such, or, alternatively, ALL Added Messages (Including Informational, Public Service and Commercial, Political, etc.) MUST BE IDENTIFIED by the ULTIMATE SOURCE (Origin). Users of Social Media MAY NOT RECOGNIZE when Messages are "Run" for the purpose of INFLUENCING THEM.

Comments provided by :
Quill, Dan

Our elections are the core of our democratic political system. If they are undermined by propaganda or fake news from foreign actors or domestic collusion, our democracy is undermined. 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.

We need robust, transparent debates on issues, not ones fueled and manipulated by foreign and domestic actors. The FEC is the agency charged with making sure campaign finance rules are followed ? so I think you should start working more, now, to require the same level of transparency for online ads as we have for political ads on television.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Rabois, Ira

Transparency should be the rule for campaign donations as it should be for the government. Otherwise, money will rule our elections. If someone contributes but wants their donation kept anonymous, it defeats what our country is about. Why the secret? What's to hide?

Comments provided by :
Radlowski, Diane

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.

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 :

Rakaczky, Rachel

The truth shall set you free. Everybody deserves to know who is funding and or profiting from anything. Transparency is a must.

Comments provided by :
Ramos, Paul

We need to know who is paying for the advertisement. He may be rocket man or Putin who knows.

Comments provided by :
Rao, Bantwal

I believe we must protect our freedom by not allowing hidden or disguised forces to attempt to manipulate our political discourse by placing advertisements or posts of any kind without revealing who paid for the ad or comment placement. I believe all political advertisers should be required to list their management, donors and purpose in an easily accessible national database. The advertiser or paid poster should be required to reveal who paid for the ad, and reference a registration number.

This most recent election saw a remarkable amount of foreign organizations attempting to manipulate US elections without revealing who they were, in effect masquerading as American Citizens. No one should be allowed to place advertising or paid commentary and do so anonymously and in hiding.

Comments provided by :
Ratchford, David

As a former teacher, I am concerned that no one is talking about how to evaluate what we read or hear for its accuracy. I have been repeatedly scandalized to learn about people taking falsehoods for fact. If our schools are not going to teach our citizens how to deal with information, then our second line of defense must be to make it more transparent who is paying for something to be published or aired.

Comments provided by :

Reel, Judee

For the sake of our democracy we need transparency in the funding of political advertising. It especially relevant with the news that the Russians paid for ads in the 2016 election.

Comments provided by :
Reid, Stephen

This country needs for you to require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them ? as is required for television and print advertisements.

Comments provided by :
Reilly, Jennifer

I get most of my information on political candidates from the Internet and want to know who pays for the ads I see. I understand that existing transparency rules still include references to telegrams and typewriters, but don't require adequate disclosure for online ads.

Online ads need to be subject to the same disclosure rules as TV, radio, and print ads: anyone seeking to influence my vote on a candidate or issue must disclose who is paying for the ad.

Comments provided by :
Remington, Stephanie

It is important that ALL sources of information that people can access be subject to standards of disclosure. There should be no difference in transparency rules between types of platform, whether print, television, online, or any other. Anyone who wants to disseminate information or advertising should have the integrity to divulge who they are and by whom they are funded. Those unwilling to abide by consistent rules for transparency should be considered unlawful. It would be especially corrupt for a taxpayer-funded agency such as the FEC to deny citizens the right to know who pays for ads by allowing secrecy in online advertising.

Comments provided by :
Reynolds, Anna

Please rule that all political ads must disclose the people who are paying for them

Comments provided by :
Richey, Sylvia

We expect our intelligent public servants to be proactive and to deal with the concerns of the public before the happen when possible. We know that campaign activities are going into social platforms online and the FCC should get ahead of that curve with appropriate regulations.

Comments provided by :
Ripley, George

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.

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 :
Robinson, Matt

Political ads on the internet should be governed by the same rules as ads on TV and radio. We need to know as citizens who is paying for political ads.

Comments provided by :
Rodarte, MaryKay

FEC regulations for internet communication disclaimers absolutely need to have the correct sponsoring individual or group listed in legible print. I would like the internet listing to go even farther than the television and other media disclaimers. I would like to see a listing of the largest contributors also listed or at least a **WORKING** link to the list of contributors. In other words, instead of the page just saying "paid for by the Committee to Hide Who is Really Paying for this Ad," it should list Contributions include among others the John and Jane Doe Foundation, the Dirty Oil Corporation, and The Government of LaLa Land. Honest people do not need to hid behind layers of made up PACs. Newspapers require Letters to the Editor to be signed by the sender. This should be the same. You cannot know the truth until you can follow the money.

Comments provided by :
Rohrbaugh, Darnell

We have a right to know whom is trying to influence our vote!

Comments provided by :
Rose, Donna

I would like the FEC to update the rules for advertisements on the internet to make the purchasers of the ads transparent. This is especially important to safeguard our democracy when we have foreign players, like Russia, trying to influence our elections.

Comments provided by :
Rosen, Michael

65 percent of Americans identified the internet (or an online platform) as their leading source of information.

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

78 percent of Americans 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 :
Rosenberg, Harriet

I believe that it is vital to the integrity of our democracy that we have full disclosure of who paid for political ads posted to social media platforms. Transparency means everything. Without it we are stumbling around in the dark. Joanne Rousculp Palmer, Alaska

Comments provided by :
Rousculp, Joanne

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.

Please end secret online political ads..

Thanks you.

Comments provided by :
Rove, Frances

I demand clarity in political advertising! The ultimate sponsor of a political ad, the provider of the money, **MUST** be named in **ALL** political ads, wherever they appear. That means not "Families for Good Gov't." as a supposed sponsor when the money really came from the American Petroleum Council (Just an example - these are fictitious as far as I know.) There is far too much confusion and double dealing in political adverts and we the electorate demand and deserve fuller disclosure!

Comments provided by :
Ruble, Lois

Transparency is part of processes that are ethical, just, and democratic. To make a bold public statement without acknowledging the source is cowardly, deceptive, irresponsible, unethical, unjust, and undemocratic.

The FCC must require that political advertising reveal the source of the message.

Comments provided by :

Ruby, Kenneth

It is imperative at all media that could be used to influence elections are held accountable for complete transparency as to whom is purchasing ads or time to sell candidates, issues, and propaganda.

Comments provided by :
Russell , Ann i

The FEC is the agency charged with making sure campaign finance rules are followed.

With strong evidence that Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to interfere with the 2016 election, we need to end secret online political ads.

Like political adds on television, the FEC must ensure that Americans know the source of political messages on social media.

Comments provided by :
Russell, Jennifer

Make sure that the people reading content on the internet know the source. Political adds should include a message stating who exactly is paying for the ad.advertisers

Comments provided by :
ryan, gary

There should be no difference between TV and internet political advertising. Both must make clear on whose behalf they speak. Make internet advertising as transparent as it needs to be.

Comments provided by :
Salgado, Maria

We should be allowed to know who is paying for the items we see posted online. It is very difficult, sometimes, to determine what is legit and what is not. The more info we have as to source allows us to make better decisions as to the legitimacy of the postings.

Comments provided by :
Sampson, T

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.

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 :
sanders, david

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.

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 :
Sandoval, Robert

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.

Comments provided by :
Sarcone, Mark

FEC job is to serve the public interest and they have failed to do that. I just want to remind FEC employees about the mission and vision of why FEC was created.

Thank you,

Comments provided by :
Satti, Farhana

As a citizen of this country and having multiple family members who have fought for this country by serving in the military I feel that it's a dishonor to have a foreign entity influence our free elections. It's time to show where political ads are from

Comments provided by :
Scattergood , Christina

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.

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 :
Schaefer, Robin

Americans deserve to know who is behind the money in political advertising.

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 don't require adequate disclaimers for online ads.

78 percent of Americans 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 :
Schindele, Paulette

As a teacher of community college students - voting ages 18 - 55+ - I am required by my contract to incorporate critical thinking into my curriculum, something I enthusiastically support.

Without the proper information as to the financial source for political advertising on the internet, these potential voters are less likely to make informed choices when they vote in local, state, and federal elections. Too many of them say, "I'm so confused. I don't know who and what to believe. I just won't vote." Some of my students are naturalized American citizens. They love the United States, yet they look at the dissension created by deliberate falsifications and express a sense of foreboding. We the people are better when we know. Do your duty to help us have honest and fair elections.

Comments provided by :
Schmid, Rosemary

We need an open internet to debate our politics, but transparency is of the utmost importance. Please protect our country with well researched rules to keep us safe.

Comments provided by :
Schultz, Carmen

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.

Comments provided by :
Schwartz, Daniel

It's so easy to put ads on the web and also so easy to hide where they come from (witness the Russian involvement of last year).

If someone wants to impact my opinion, they should be required to identify themselves and who's opinion it really is.

Comments provided by :

selig, william

We need transparency in online political ads. All types of political ads, and especially those on Facebook, Twitter, Google and other online platforms should disclose the identities of those purchasing them.

With millions of hits, tweets, and subliminal insertions of propaganda implying domestic origins of what were foreign sources, the US public were mislead and fed misinformation.

Please protect our country by demanding transparency for political ads.

Comments provided by :
Servey, Linda

The majority of Americans - 65 percent as of 2016 - use the Internet as their primary source of news. In addition to the websites of traditional news outlets and online news aggregators like Google News, this includes news shared on social media such as Facebook and Twitter.

Today, Congress made public a sample from approximately 3,000 political ads placed on Facebook which were paid for by Russian intelligence agents. Similar ads have also appeared on Instagram, according to Facebook, which also owns that site. These ads were designed to spread false rumors, sow confusion, turn Americans against each other - and get the unqualified, easily manipulated, far-right Putin admirer Donald Trump elected president.

If Putin's paid trolls can do it, so can any other nation - or any covert subnational group. This is a threat to future elections and our national security.

The Federal Election Commission should close the online political ad loophole and require that online political advertisements disclose who paid for them.

Comments provided by :
Servos, Katherine

Please don't allow Facebook/Twitter/Google or any other social networks to publish political ads without disclosing who is paying for them.
Russia or any other foreign entities should NOT be able to interfere in America's election process or in any American activity.
This is vitally important for our country. Also, political contributions from foreign entities or companies representing foreign entities must be disallowed.

Comments provided by :
Shankie, Donna

Dear Sir/Madam:

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.

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.

God bless America!

Sincerely,

Richard Shannahan
Veteran

Comments provided by :
Shannahan, Richard

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.

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 :
Shannon, Janet

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

The citizens of the United States of America are the most information-savvy and -knowledgeable on planet earth. We count on being able to know who says what, and we can contest what others say freely and openly, albeit respectfully and civilly.

It is critical as the global information society evolves that we are provided the transparency to know who is saying what, whether journalistic or commercially via advertising.

As we have learned, our geopolitical adversaries will try to use the modern, non-military means to undermine our Great Society. We do the same, so it is neither bad nor unfair -- this is the world we the United States of America have helped to create, so we must live with it.

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. We need to change this to reflect the currency and transparency of our evolving society, domestic and global.

Americans have a right to know who is paying for political advertisements?whether it be organizations with ties to other governments or their agents or wealthy special interests here at home. I do not single out any one government or organization -- simply because ALL nations either are or will be acting in this way more and more in the near future.

Unfortunately, we have the situation of the lead-up and follow-up to the 2016 USA Presidential Election -- There is strong evidence that Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to influence social discourse and content.

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. We know it will happen again, so the only way to navigate such situations is through transparency of the purchasers and their purchases.

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.

Thank you immensely for acting, and thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Comments provided by :
sharp, james

If you're forced to watch a political attack ad on TV, at least you know it's an ad and the name of the entity who paid for it.

That's not true on the internet.

And that's where political advertising is heading at a supersonic pace ? precisely because that's where Americans are spending their time and getting their information.

The FEC must require online campaign ads to include disclaimers as to who is paying for them ? just as 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 disclosure for online ads.

No matter if it's organizations with ties to Russia or shadowy nonprofits funded by the Koch Brothers, Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads.

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

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.

It's time for the FEC to make it happen.

Comments provided by :
Shaw, Claire

The internet must be protected from "bad actors" to insure that the naive public isn't conned again by unscrupulous evildoers and foreign adversaries.

Comments provided by :
Shaw, Marsha

Everyone should be required to reveal where they get their money in a democracy. If you are running for a public office in this country then you should have nothing to hid.

Comments provided by :
sheaffer, Scott

Truth as to who is paying for a political advertisement of any kind should be mandatory.

Comments provided by :
sheets-johnstone, maxine

Americans have the right to know who is funding all campaign materials - the internet needs the same type of transparency in political ads that TV has been required to have. I urge you to pass rules and regulations that protect the American people from undue influence from the wealthy here at home as well as foreign interests that would harm us.

Comments provided by :
Siders, Mayme

I urge you to update the FEC disclosure requirements to end the online ad loophole. Stop foreign forces from posting ads directed to specific groups that are divisive, false and focused on election tampering.

Comments provided by :
siegenthaler, connies

While I believe free speech is important, I think anonymous free speech in advertising is harmful and should not be allowed. Knowing what the motivations of the speaker are allows one to place their speech into context.

Comments provided by :
Sigmon, Bruce

There are reasons that the creators and purveyors of political advertisements were forced by law to identify themselves in television and print media. Those same reasons apply to the internet. As a voter, how can I judge the veracity of a statement without being able to consider its source? Therefore, I strongly urge the FEC to mandate full disclosure of the sources of political ads posted to social media platforms.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :

Simel, Jack

I am shocked to learn that political ads on the internet are not subject to the same regulations as ads on TV and radio. All political ads, regardless of their media format, should be subject to the same rules. Please do something to rectify this situation immediately!

Comments provided by :
Simmons, Cathy

Providing us with information as to who paid for a political ad is required in other media, we call it transparency. Obviously online advertising either did not exist or was rarely used when this law was first implemented. Now that so much of our political advertising is done online it is important to update our laws along with the technology we use the most. For this reason alone these transparency laws need to be extended to all political ads including online ads. Now add to this reason the knowledge that online ads were paid for by foreign governments and included fake information in 2016, it is even more imperative that the laws be extended to include ALL political ads including the Internet. Democracy flourishes with openness and light and dies in darkness. Our voters should be guaranteed access to full and truthful information so they can make intelligent decisions. Part of that truthfulness is knowing who paid for an ad or supported the candidate or issue in question. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Skarbrevik, Brita

To whom it may concern:

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.

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). And I am another, not included in that 78% !

The above 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.

If we are to preserve our democracy--of, by and for the people-- the above must be addressed, and I and what I believe is a majority of my fellow citizens count on you to address it.

Sincerely,
Priscilla Skerry, N.D.

Comments provided by :
Skerry, Priscilla

I am asking that the FEC make all ads political & otherwise on social media & the internet transparent. We must know who is behind these ads & who or what is funding them. We can't have a foreign power such as Russia interfering in our elections or anything else. We as consumers have a right to know this.
Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Skonberg, Linda

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.

Comments provided by :
Smallwood Beltran, Sandra

Please require internet political advertisers to fully disclose who they are. Given the recent, well-documented, meddling in the US Presidential Election, it is imperative that voters know who is soliciting their vote and mind share. It is time to bring the internet into compliance with the regulations that govern print, TV and radio political advertising.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this important issue.

Comments provided by :
Smernoff, David

It is very important to me that you, the FEC, require online campaign ads to include disclaimers as to who is paying for the ad. This is required for television and print ads. It should also be required for internet ads particularly since more and more people are getting all of their news over the internet.

It is time to make this happen.

Thank you for your consideration.

Anne Smith

Comments provided by :
Smith, Anne

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 :
Smith, Jeremiah

Accurate information is a necessity to make a well informed decision. Well informed decisions are necessary to make a well informed vote. Many of us get our information from the internet. Often the source of this information and who paid for it is not attributed to anyone. Based on our last Presidential election with so many "alternative facts", I believe it is essential to clearly define who is paying for ads and how much is being spent on each ad. This should allow the reader to fully understand what and who is behind this information and thus come to a reasoned decision concerning whether or not to believe what they have read. I believe our Democracy would be safer if this identification is required for Internet political ads.

Comments provided by :
Snyder, Diane

I am writing to urge you to end the online ad loophole. Americans have a right to know who is buying online political ads. These often misleading ads are being bought with foreign money and targeting foolish Americans who believe anything they read online. Protect our democracy and end the online ad loophole!

Comments provided by :
Souder, Logan

I believe American have the right to know who is paying for political advertisements, whether it's organizations with ties to Russia or wealthy Special interests here in the USA. Most people get their information from the internet, but our outdated rules for transparency don't require adequate disclosure for online ads. There is strong evidence that Russians used social media to interfere with the 2016 election, and we need to use every possible remedy to make sure that doesn't happen again.

Comments provided by :
Southard, Keane

The internet is the biggest and most pervasive source of information for Americans and advertisers know this. We need to have the same funding source disclosures that tv and radio have. Lest we have more bad actors hiding behind legitimate sounding advertisements online, just like they used to on tv and radio.

Comments provided by :
Spaller, Payton

Please correct the omission of online political ads from the responsibility to disclose the source of funding for the ad. It is very important to me to know exactly who is paying for a political ad so that I can judge the content in the context of the person or organization that is sponsoring the ad. If there is no disclosure, bad actors can spread lies without consequence and many people may be misinformed without realizing it.

Comments provided by :
Springer, Karen

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.

Comments provided by :
starace, michael

The internet needs to stay free and equal. We don't want big companies spending their way to the front of the line. Or candidates being bought, with large donations, that are not disclosed. We need to know who is buying all political ads. Full disclosure!

Comments provided by :
Starr, Jeffrey

Please make it mandatory to post the source of any ads.....for our democracy's sake.

Comments provided by :
Stein, William

In the 2016 election, 65% of Americans identified the internet or an online platform as their leading source of information. Yet as you know, 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 a plethora of testimony and evidence that Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to interfere with elections by misinforming voters about 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.

Comments provided by :
Steiner, A.L.

It is time to be productive and lay out some modern and straightforward rules before our democracy is destroyed from inside AND outside of this country. Our transparency rules are outdated and should be updated to today's realities (the internet, fund-raising entities with obscure names and dubious goals, wealthy donors with much to gain hiding behind organization fronts).

1. Americans have a right to know who is paying for ALL political ads, including online ads.
2. The FEC should require online campaign ads to include information about who is paying for them, as is required for television and print advertisements.
3. 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.

Seventy-eight 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. It is well past time to make this happen.

Comments provided by :
Stephenson, Kathryn

I call on the FEC to act immediately to update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them. Why would we not provide adequate disclaimers for online ads? What possible legitimate reason could there be? And if it is about money (in a time of unprecedented wealth consolidation at the top for companies and individuals), that burden to business argument seems pretty thin (unless there is an admission that trickle down economics is really the great lie of the ages, since there is more than enough wealth accumulated to add an identifier to an online ad and with tracking tools today, it would hardly be difficult or a great effort to identify the source of money for any particular ad). By providing disclaimers we would be helping to shift towards transparency in politics and helping the average American better understand where the money (from rigged elements of the system like Citizen's United) is coming from. It fits with educating the public, empowering the public, providing news people can trust, and pulls back the curtain on the large conglomerates and wealthy individuals who are funneling money and using psychological tools to influence the opinions of the average American while claiming they are not doing it or that it is good for Americans. The people who want to be able to donate as much as they want from behind the scenes are part of the problem. We need to be focused on the solution of more transparency and removing the massive corruption of our political system by money (from individuals and corporations who are using that money to have a greater voice than they would have with just an individual vote in a true democracy). 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. 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. The FEC will either show themselves to be part of the problem with this decision or part of the solution. It will also show whether they are fighting for the people or simply shoring up the tools of the wealthy (and those who seek more power and money) to oppress others through information manipulation. Will the FEC take steps to empower all fellow Americans with useful information and trust them (and the proverbial 'free market') to make informed decisions or will they effectively lie by omission and seek to not include information on who paid for political ads on social media platforms? We can only hope they will do the right thing and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them. If they don't, one has to wonder if they are either intentionally manipulating and social engineering to work towards a desired result (while telling themselves their evil means justify the end or if they are turning a blind eye to the consequences of continued lack of transparency).

By the way - shameful that you worded this up front so that you scare people unnecessarily about releasing their private information at the start and shameful that you have a button to go back and edit. Your only way to edit goes back to the starting page and does not save comments and does not even warn anyone to save before going back before they lose what they wrote. Stands to reason, some people would not go through the process again to comment because they would have to retype everything they wrote that was lost. That certainly is one way to suppress public opinion.

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 :
Steves, Doug

It is vital that all online/Internet media outlets be governed by the same guidelines in existence for print, television, and radio media to assure transparency. Identification of individuals or groups using any messaging or advertising in the public realm must be identified.

Comments provided by :
Stillman, Clark

A majority of Americans now consume news online. Most of the political ads we see are online ads from social media platforms. These ads are unregulated and are causing great damage to our democracy. Facebook has admitted to selling political campaign adds to Russians. This is in violation of our campaign finance laws. Television and radio adds are regulated, it is time that the FEC update the rules to include internet adds. Online political adds should have to go through the same process television and radio adds do. The FEC is tasked with enforcing campaign finance laws and making sure that illegal contributions are not made. Please update policies to regulate these online adds. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Stocks, Carly

We need honesty at all levels - especially emanating from the top office which is impossible with this narcissistic jerk in office.

Comments provided by :
Stokes, Thomas

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.

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 :
Stone, Shoshanah

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 :
Straub, Marcus

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.

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Comments provided by :
Strawman, Tom

When did the right to know who is paying for an ad become secret? If we are to have open and free elections, those behind spreading the propaganda and hate should be required to say who they are. They should not be allowed to be anonymous when they are trying to influence a public event like elections - at any level and for any legislation or candidate. The mechanism of that propaganda has shifted from print media and TV to online. The rules should follow the delivery method. The internet has become the medium where most people get their news and information these days. The rules for TV and print MUST be the same on internet ads.

Comments provided by :
Stroud, Patrick

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.

Comments provided by :

Swan, Curtis

Given the recent reports of probable attempts by a foreign power to influence the 2016 elections, it is imperative that all political advertisements (whether candidate or issue related), campaign materials, campaign donations (including those to PACs, 527 groups, and other third-party entities), and electioneering communications disclose, in a manner that anyone viewing or hearing such information can easily notice, who is sponsoring the message. Given the increasingly prominent role of social media and other Internet platforms in delivering news and information to the public and in shaping public opinion, such disclosure requirements should apply to any relevant online advertisements, campaign materials, or electioneering communications directed to a general audience. Even without the allegations of foreign influence, such disclosures are essential to maintaining the accountability of campaigns and candidates to the public and to allowing voters to accurately weigh and evaluate the validity of any information communicated.

Comments provided by :
Sweatman, Tim

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

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Comments provided by :
Talwar, Sahil

I was surprised and upset to learn that political ads posted on online sites and social media are not subject to the same disclaimers as are television ads. This does not make sense when more people today than ever before receive their information- especially political information - from the internet. Please revise these outdated laws and make them relevant for the 21st century. Citizens need to know where the money is coming from in political ads so that they can set the content of the ads in context.

Comments provided by :
Tananone, Christine

My leading source of information is the internet. Outdated transparency rules do not 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.

It seems there is strong evidence Russia used social media platforms to interfere with the 2016 election. We need prevent that from happening again. Americans know the source of political messages.

Our democracy depends on robust, transparent debate. The FEC 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 :
Taylor, Dawn

We need to get elections back into the hands of the people. Corporations are not people. Corporations should not be allowed to contribute to elections nor run any type of political ads.

It is up to you to help protect the American people by forcing full disclosure.

Comments provided by :
Terpe, Vincent

Voters 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. Sunshine is necessary to protect democracy from the influence of special interests.

Comments provided by :
Thayer, John R

Is it not yet time for the FEC to catch up with the 21st Century? It does not take a brain surgeon to know that rules for political advertising on the Internet must be updated.

Comments provided by :
Theriault, Daniel

Justice Kennedy, in his concurring opinion in Citizens United, said his concurrence was based on full donor transparency. Justice Kennedy's call for full transparency should apply to everything over which the FEC has jurisdiction.

Letting voters know who really is paying for political commentary, other than by main stream media, and political ad content is one of the best ways to thwart foreign interference in our elections. The disclosures must be shown on a solid black background on the bottom 1/3 of the ad. The font must be easily legible, e.g. white Arial 12.

Thank you for reading my comments.

Comments provided by :

Tobe, Jerry

Understanding who is paying for political advertisements is a really important step in having an open, fair election process. Our current transparency rules don't adequately cover online ad disclosure. Please update these rules and force social media platforms and trusted news sites alike to be transparent with their advertisements.

Comments provided by :
Tomlinson, Brianna

I and everyone I know (friends, relatives, neighbors and co-workers!) ABSOLUTELY desire FULL DISCLOSURE on who or what entity is funding political ads. It is VERY important...otherwise the credibility of the ads is ZERO.

PLEASE.....go for FULL DISCLOSURE OF FUNDING FOR POLITICAL ADS!!!

Thank you!

Comments provided by :
Trombly, Barbara

Good Day,

Some politicians are quick to state that the fake news on Facebook and other platforms "did not affect the outcome of the 2016 presidential election". I beg to differ. A large portion of our population is susceptible to this very kind of manipulation. The fact that it was conducted largely by a foreign power is particularly disturbing. The FEC needs to ensure fair elections, so let's clean out this garbage. If we can't do that, people at least deserve to know where it came from.

A concerned citizen

Comments provided by :
Troutman, Phil

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.

Comments provided by :

Tryon, Laura

election advertisements and promotional material regardless of media should contain information on who paid for them. we do this for print tv & radio already - now it's time to include the internet and all online communications & applications in those requirements. otherwise voters cannot know who is feeding them information or make judgements on the truth of the statements.

Comments provided by :
turner, kim

Political advertising placed on the internet and social media should be regulated exactly as ads in the press and on TV and radio are. The identity of the entity who paid for the ads should be clearly stated. Sunshine is the best disinfectant.

Comments provided by :
Ulmer, Stephanie

Please require disclaimers in political ads as is done for TV and print

Comments provided by :
valentine, jennifer

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Comments provided by :
valentine, jennifer

I have been shocked and horrified to learn about the political ads paid for by non-US groups (presumably Russians). This is a REAL concern to me! As a member of Public Citizen, I request that you require such ads to provide the source of the ad, as is already the case for TV and radio ads.

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.

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 :
Valk, James

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Comments provided by :
Valliant, Tristan

Since the majority of people get their information from social media, it's only right that the same transparency rules for on-air ads apply to on-line ads. We should be informed if a foreign interest is sponsoring the message.

Comments provided by :
Van Doornik, Dale

I've been in advertising and marketing for 30+ years. I do believe that internet advertising needs to have a clear sponsor to the advertising message. I've had to do it for years in print and broadcast, so would not be a hardship for the electronic media either. Should absolutely be transparent to consumers. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Vesperman, Caryn

Please require online ads to include easy to read disclaimers identifying who paid for the ad. Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads.

Comments provided by :
Vollaro, James

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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 :
Vukovich, Chelsea

This should have been done years ago along with any other kinds of advertising.
GW

Comments provided by :
Wagner, Gerald

It is too easy for a tiny minority of the population (less than 1% of 1%) to put their self serving desires in a specific light with the right misrepresentation. While they may be speaking for the good of the all, we need to follow the money trail.

Knowing who has paid for a political ad is important.

We need to know what reality is so we can navigate it.

Comments provided by :
Wagner, Ryan

Just as is done on TV and radio political ads, Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political advertisements?whether it be organizations with ties to Russia or wealthy special interests here at home. And 'bots' shouldn't be used to disseminate political information (or misinformation, as in the 2016 election.)

Comments provided by :
Watanabe, T.

I encourage you to maintain a free and open internet for the benefit of all constituents and for the best interest of all concerned citizens.

Restriction of internet traffic will have catastrophic consequences for citizens and business alike.

Comments provided by :
Watson, Pete

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Comments provided by :
Watts, Susan

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

Comments provided by :
Way, David

I strongly urge that the FCC protect the neutrality of internet usage. The internet is akin to the telephone service, or electricity, like a highway. The internet functions, in reality, as a public utility. It would be wrong to allow companies to interfere with the free and open flow of information, or restrict access based upon content or other factors.

Today, many of us across this nation receive our vital information through the internet. Most businesses, large and small, depend on using the internet. Allowing more restrictions, using internet access as a profit center, or other intrusive schemes being floated, would be seriously detrimental to business and to democracy.

Please do the correct thing for the people of this nation, and keep net neutrality as a core value of our communication system.

Comments provided by :
Weber, Susan

All advertising during a political cycle or that contains political messaging should be subject to the same rules of transparency as tv radio and other media; the public deserves to know who is behind the message In that ad so that we are better able to make the crucial critical thinking decisions needed for our open democratic process.

Please require online ads and ads on social media to reveal their funding sources.

Comments provided by :

Weekley, Demian

I call on the FEC to act immediately to update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them.
This will benefit all of us greatly.

Thank you.
Elaine

Comments provided by :
Weir, Elaine

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.

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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 :

Weisman, Eleanor

I am someone who has not watched television for more than 5 1/2 years. I get news primarily by reading Facebook feeds and secondarily by listening to National Public Radio. For me to assess the truthfulness of what I read and watch, I try to ascertain who the source is. For the same reason, I believe that political ads should indicate who is paying for them.

Comments provided by :
Westen , Susanna

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Comments provided by :
Whitaker, Howard

Please make who pays for internet ads even more obvious than those used for broadcast media.

And make them clear as to what the sponsor's position is regarding the issue and/or candidate.

Comments provided by :

Whitney, Robert

To the FEC:

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.

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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.

Sincerely,

Robert Wical

Comments provided by :
Wical, Robert

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. I hate Facebook and I deleted my account in the summer of last year. I always tried to ignore all ads on Facebook when I was on it, but I know that most people have smartphones and constantly look at Facebook all day long believing everything they see and watch because all their friends are doing it. Sad, but true. We need to use every lever at our disposal ? including ending secret online political ads ? to prevent interference in our elections by Russian actors and rich, corrupt special interests 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. Yet our outdated transparency rules, which still include references to telegrams and typewriters, don't require adequate disclosure for online ads. I get my news online, but I get it from a legitimate news source. I realize most humans are apathetic and just look at Facebook for what they think is news. Please make the ads these apathetic people rely on transparent. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Williams, Christina

all ads and funding for all candidates should be public information.

Comments provided by :
williamson, brent

please leave no stone unturned in you efforts to require transparency in all political advertising, online.
thank you

Comments provided by :
Winters, Fred

Our Democracy relies on knowing whose opinions we're hearing, especially when those opinions are claiming to be facts. Online political advertising needs to be held to the same accountability standards as television and radio. Our democracy is in a fragile state. Without vigilance and clear information, our way of life is endangered. We need full, clear disclosures about the funding sources for ALL political advertising on the internet, or any other media.

Comments provided by :
Wodkowski, Michael

Dear FEC decision maker:

I am writing to you to encourage you to update to update your disclosure requirements to end the online ad loophole. 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.

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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.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sharon R. Wolfe
Citizen Activist

Comments provided by :
Wolfe, Sharon

As an American citizen I should have the right to know _who_ is sponsoring AND __paying for___ All political Ads on television and the internet.

With Russia's involvement, it is only natural to be suspicious of much of the information we are bombarded with daily.

The FCC is or _should_ be our protection from international interference with out elections, since it has become an internet problem.

Thank you.

Deborah Wood

Comments provided by :
Wood, Deborah

The internet should be required to list the name of the entity who is buying an advertisement just like on TV.

Comments provided by :
Wood, Deborah

Please act to require all online political advertisements to include who is paying for or sponsoring the message, the same as is required for television ads. It only makes sense to regulate them in the same way, especially since most Americans get their news and information online these days. Don't let foreign interests or corporate lobbyists control our democracy. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Wood, Jessica

The Founders were adamant in their conviction that a functioning democracy demanded an informed citizenry. If we do not have complete and accurate information, we, as citizens, cannot fulfill our obligations. There is no logical reason why information on the internet about who funds political advertising should have different rules regarding transparency than printed ads.

Comments provided by :
Woolley, Nancy

Political advertising, unidentified on the current internet, creates a high risk for observers that is avoided on TV and radio. Consistency is essential. It is past time to require internet sources, especially on social media sites, to "label" or identify political ads just as they must be identified on TV and radio. Time is of the essence: 2018 is an election year. Updated rules need to be in place before 2018. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Wright, John

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.

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Thank you,

Jennifer Wyatt

Comments provided by :
Wyatt, Jennifer

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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 :
Wyneken, Margaret

Citizens exposed to paid political advertising have a right to be informed that it is paid for, and by what entity - regardless of whether on the internet or through other sources.

Thanking you in advance, for your consideration of this important issue

Comments provided by :

Young, Jeanne

Most people do not fact check and a lot believe that what they read on the internet is the absolute truth. We must say who is behind any political ad campaign.

Sincerely,
Patricia Young

Comments provided by :
Young, Patricia

The notion that campaign contributions are 'free speech' is just as ridiculous as the notion that corporations are people. But more to the point, even if you consider money spent on political advertising free speech, that so-called speech cannot be come without consequences. Would you permit a television show to broadcast without making public the producer's name? That is a violation of broadcast law. It is of paramount importance that any and all sponsors for political advertising, whether in print, on the web, or broadcast via cable, satellite, or UHF, be listed in the ad itself. Consider it a form of truth in advertising. The American People deserve to know who is trying to influence them politically.

Comments provided by :
Ziellenbach, Karl

In the last presidential election, over 65% of Americans said that the internet was their main source of information about the candidates and their election, and allowed this to heavily impact their vote.

Yet the laws of transparency (which still include typewriters and telegrams!) do not require online ads to contain disclaimers as to who paid for them. A recent Marist poll indicated that 78% of Americans are in favor of clear disclosure of funding sources.

I am asking the FEC to act immediately to update regulations and require online political ads to include disclaimers identifying who paid for them. Thank you.

Comments provided by :

Zoll, Kathleen

Americans have a right to know who is financing political advertisements online! Politicians already have to reveal this information on TV & in print.

Comments provided by :
Zukoski, Katie