



Mr. Louis Sinclair
Apt 912
2156 NW Thorncroft Dr
Hillsboro, OR 97124

RECEIVED
FEC MAIL CENTER

2017 NOV 13 AM 9:34

November 3, 2017

Federal Election Commission
999 E St NW
Washington, DC 20463

Re: Disclosure of source of political ads posted on social media platforms

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to request that you bring a higher standard of transparency to social media platforms regarding the placement of ads, particularly by foreign governments, that are directed toward influencing US elections. Our democracy depends on your oversight and vigilance!

Many in US now get their news primarily through the internet so it is essential that, going forward, there be disclosure of who has paid for political ads that appear on various platforms.

Thank you for your concern with the protection of our elections and our democracy.

Sincerely,

Louis Sinclair

c.c. ACLU
League of Women Voters
Campaign Legal Center
Brennan Center

To the FEC panel and the public in your discussion regarding online advertising disclosures. Thank you for taking the time to read these below comments.

The fact that Russia utilized Facebook and Google advertising tools, and other forms of social media to target and influence the American vote in 2016 is far less shocking than the fact that the following can happen: Sentiment a person has expressed online via social media (clicks on articles read, use of the like button, shared or read articles) can be coupled with other purchased data points about that person (voter registration information, voting record, purchase history from companies, etc.) and used to precisely target that person's social media feed, with a goal of manipulation. And the manipulating party does not have to disclose that what was shared was an "ad".

But what is an ad?

This is the problem. The entire internet is based on ad revenue, so companies like Facebook, Google, Amazon and Twitter, as well as every online commerce retailer, are incentivized to know as much about you as possible because the more they know, the more you can be targeted with products, media, etc. that align with your interests. And the more you buy and engage, the more money these companies make from their "free" services from "advertisers" wishing to sell you "products or services". The more a company like Amazon knows about you, the more they can predict when the optimal time is to sell toilet paper.

But who defines advertiser? In 2016, Russia used this same data to "sell" you propaganda as a product, to influence your sentiment. And, Facebook aggressively went after political ad dollars as a way to generate revenue.

And, the same exact technology and methodology of precision targeting with a goal of influencing sentiment (and a once stated goal of voter suppression) was used by the Donald Trump campaign and RNC. This same strategy could be employed in the future, by a Democratic candidate, the DNC, an Independent, a corporate lobbyist, etc. Trump's campaign used data from Cambridge Analytica combined with other purchased data points on 220 million Americans in a database known as "project Alamo". In the month before the election, women, minorities, and other "double-haters" were targeted with "ads" to try and get them to not vote. And it's all perfectly legal.

The problem isn't Russia. The problem isn't Facebook. The problem isn't Google. The problem is that there are no laws to protect consumers. Our children. Our democracy. Nothing to protect us from what we have created. No disclosures for who is purchasing the "ad" (e.g. - any type of media content) that shows up in your feed, with a goal of influencing you.

It should frighten both citizens and the government that we've created an economy where a few tech giants have more data on the American People than you have on yourself, than our government has about your whole history, and they have the power to combine data from other sources, and sell the data they've collected on you. And their data is open to be use by anyone, so long as they are using "advertising software" to "sell" something. Big brother is a corporation. And we've let this happen by our lack of oversight and hubris about consumer protections.

It is my belief and hope that the conversation is finally changing. So I ask the FEC to please begin regulating, in a nonpartisan way, all purchased political ads. To require disclosure of the purchasing entity (as to who they are and their authenticity) as well as a recognizable visual icon and disclaimer notification that both precedes and is attached visually to the ad.

It would be a great starting point to understand that the Bill Clinton scandal video, or the Hillary super-predator animation was actually just a political ad. That didn't happen in 2016. Let's be certain these notifications are required in 2020.

Thank you

Comments provided by :
Davidson, Anna Marie

November 13, 2017

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Thank you for taking the time to read these below comments.

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government has about your whole history, and they have the power to combine data from other sources, and sell the data they've collected on you. And their data is open to be use by anyone, so long as they are using "advertising software" to "sell" something. Big brother is a corporation. And we've let this happen by our lack of oversight on, and hubris about, consumer protections.

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It would be a great starting point to understand that the Bill Clinton scandal video, the Trump Access Hollywood tape, or the Hillary super-predator animation are actually just political ads, and not some random meme or post. That didn't happen in 2016. Let's be certain these notifications are required in 2020.

Thank you

November 4, 2017

By Website Form

Federal Election Commission

999 E Street, NW

Washington, DC 20463

Re: Reopened ANPRM on Internet Communication Disclaimers

Dear Commissioners:

First, I directly answer some of the questions from the ANPRM and its previous versions. Then I follow up with a few additional notes.

(1) What role should internet media providers' usual and normal advertising model should play in the Commission's consideration of disclaimer requirements?

The Commission should use information on "usual and normal advertising models" only inasmuch as those models demonstrate what technology is already easily implemented by internet media providers. What is already implemented should form an absolute minimum for the Commission's requirements. For example, most all major internet media providers use hypertext links, rollovers or popups, and image zooming. While not every technology is available on every mobile device or platform, the Commission should require that what *is* available is used to comply with the disclaimer requirements.

(2) Should either the small items exception or impracticable exception should apply to small or character-limited internet communications?

The small and impractical exceptions were created due to limitations of the physical world, i.e. it would be "physically impossible" to comply, *see* Advisory Opinion 2004-10 (Metro Networks); they do not exist due to vendors' failure to provide full services.

Public communications on the internet do not have the same types of physical limitations as communications that are under the small items and impracticable exceptions.

Furthermore, most mobile devices are not limited by their size: millions of Americans watch movies and television shows, consume news, and read books on their mobile devices. Most voters view buttons or skywriting from afar. And full disclaimers would not be possible on pens due to physical space limitations.

But those characteristics are not shared by most mobile devices and internet media. Voters hold the mobile devices in their hands only inches from their face, usually no more than a foot. The normal and intended use of mobile devices is to read text on the devices' screens at a close distance, which is not the purpose for buttons or other small items. Furthermore, the internet does not have *physical* limitations like items that receive the impractical exception. Which brings us to the next question:

(3) What technological or other characteristics might define "small" internet advertisements?

None. Because of the nature of the internet, nothing is truly "small" or "impracticable" - images can be zoomed in, roll overs and popups can display additional text, and links can bring voters to another page with additional information. Much like turning a page or turning over a campaign mailer to view a disclaimer on the back, the internet can provide disclaimers to voters even if not immediately available at initial sight.

(4) Additional notes:

Center for Competitive Politics opines that the Commission cannot regulate public communications on the internet because it would be regulating "beyond the Commission's purview." Center for Competitive Politics, Comments of Center for Competitive Politics on Internet Communication Disclaimers, Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 76 Fed. Reg. 63567 (Oct. 13, 2011), November 14, 2011. That position ignores fundamentals of administrative law, the FECA, and the BCRA. The Commission is required to enforce the statute for disclaimers, even if the regulations would require that advertisers seek vendors that allow advertisements that comply with the disclaimer requirement.

I'd like to examine a hypothetical: An individual would like to print a mailer that would fall under the disclaimer requirement. But he chooses to use a particular vendor. The vendor has a policy that it does not print disclaimers on mailers. The technology to print disclaimers exists, but the vendor chooses not to provide that service. Under the Center for Competitive Politics's interpretation, the individual should be able to use that vendor and avoid disclaimer requirements. That interpretation is unreasonable and abdicates the Commission's duty to enforce the law to the whims of vendors.

Nor should the Commission create a new exception. When Congress passed BCRA in 2002, it did not create an exception for internet advertisements, even

though it was aware of the existence of the internet and that it was used for campaign purposes. See John B. Horrigan et al., Online campaigners, citizens, and portals in the 2002 elections (Pew Research Center 2003), available at <http://www.pewinternet.org/2003/03/20/online-campaigners-citizens-and-portals-in-the-2002-elections/>. The Commission has no reason to create an exception now, particularly given that internet technology allows for greater ability to comply with the disclaimer requirement.

Just because internet media providers do not *want* to use existing technology to assist their customers to provide disclaimers does not mean that the Commission may not require proper disclaimers. “We may never know why [internet media providers] wish to do things the hard way. The Constitution, however, does not guarantee a right to be obstinate.” *Stop This Insanity Inc. Employee Leadership Fund v. FEC*, 761 F.3d 10, 17 (D.C. Cir. 2014).

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'NH' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Nick Harper

2101 Connecticut Avenue NW

Washington , DC 20008

6 October 2017

Federal Election Commission

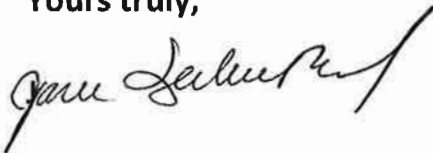
999 E street NW

Washington, DC 20463

Dear Commissioners,

In light of the developments indicating Russian intervention in US elections through online advertising, it is imperative that there be more disclosure revealing who paid for online content. The Commission has a responsibility to protect the election process and our democracy by supporting transparency in political advertising. Voters deserve to know.

Yours truly,



ane Lieberthal

OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

2017 OCT 12 AM 7:44

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION

My name is Georgia Miller
and I am ~~writing to~~ ^{urging} you to call for
better transparency in
political ads on online
advertising platforms.
Please consider new
rules that would prevent
foreign nationals from
using the platforms like
facebook & twitter to
influence our elections.
The law must catch up
with the technology.



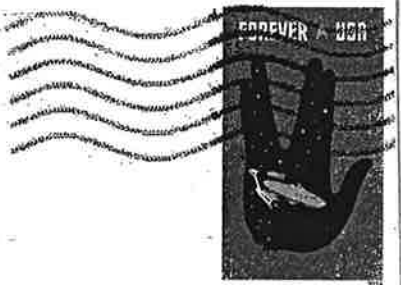
Federal Election Commission
999 E. Street NW
Washington DC 20463

#WUFA
#postcards
for America

P.O. Box 803
Fletcher OK 73541

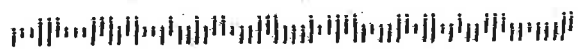
Georgia Miller
P.O. Box 803
Fletcher OK 73541

OKLAHOMA CITY OK 730
OCT 12 2017 PM 4 L



RECEIVED
FEC MAIL CENTER
2017 OCT 12 AM 7:00

Federal Election Commission
999 E. Street NW
Washington DC 20463



Please write your comment here.we need to protect our constitution and our right to voice our opinion it's our right

Comments provided by :
Adams, Mickel

Protect online free speech!

Comments provided by :
Alemdar, Kay

Dear FEC,

I write as a concerned citizen to say that I think it is critical that Americans be able to tell who is paying for ads, particularly political ads, on sites like Facebook and Twitter. There should be online disclaimers, just like there are when political ads run on television.

Since people more and more receive information from such sites, it is critical that we adjust our rules around transparency to also include these online social media platforms.

Although I'm glad to hear representatives of these social media companies say they plan to take steps to provide more information to their users, this should not be left up to their good intentions any more than it is left up to various television networks whether political ads run there must be identified in terms of who approves and pays for them. Please create regulations for companies like Facebook and Twitter that are enforceable and will ensure that there is transparency about who is behind political ads and content.

Your role here is so important, and I hope you will take action on this to preserve our democracy. In order to make informed decisions, our citizens need to have all the information about who is trying to influence them. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Alison

Comments provided by :
Alison, Cheryl

Voters deserve stronger rules on advertising disclaimers on internet political ads. Internet ad technology and prevalence have gotten more widespread and sophisticated, and voters deserve to know who is paying for the message.

Comments provided by :
Allen, Holly

We absolutely need to know who is responsible for political ads, online or anywhere else. I think it is vital, critical going forward to know who is making a political ad because I can't evaluate the information until I know who is telling me the information. Since much information reaches me via the internet those ads need to be as clearly labeled as allergy information on food. I never even imagined that Russia was behind a bunch of ads, never even imagined that they would be allowed entry this way. Now it is time to do something about it.

Comments provided by :
Altieri, Bethany

In an era of online media, we need new rules for transparency of election ads. Given the abundant evidence that ads were purchased by foreign sources to influence the 2016 election outcome, every ad must have disclaimers on who bought it and paid for it.

In fact, all political ads should have the name of the purchaser, not just a group or company name. These names should be registered for public access immediately upon purchase.

Comments provided by :

ALTMAN, LOUISE

Full transparency is essential to our democracy! Informed voters make the best decisions; knowing and considering the source is essential to determining the value and/or bias of the information. These are the principles that require such transparency for all other communication methods and it is time to include the internet with such appropriate requirements, too.

Comments provided by :
angell, j

Free speech is a constitutional right of the people and you circumventing that right is illegal.

Comments provided by :
Arballo, David

We need new rules regarding disclaimers for international political ads!! . We need a public hearing & action immediately to prevent more influence on our elections!

Comments provided by :
ashman, Deb

Please leave free speech on the internet alone. Unelected D.C. bureaucrats should not be able to regulate free speech. Free speech is a constitutional right. I have little trust in the bureaucratic machine to be fair and transparent.

Comments provided by :
Avolio, Vic

The American public should be able to instantly know who paid for a given political ad, whether it's broadcast on TV or radio, printed in a newspaper, or shared on Internet platforms. Online political ads should have clear, plain language disclaimers that connect to a verified entity. Every company that takes money to run political ads should maintain a publicly available file of those purchases.

Comments provided by :
Bailey, R.A.

Dear FEC,

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

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

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

Thank you for your time.

Emma

Comments provided by :
Balter, Emma

In light of the unprecedented attacks on our democracy, The FEC must pass new regulation regarding internet political ad disclaimers. The American people deserve to know when foreign states or other organizations are behind political ads. The FEC must require media companies like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and internet giants like Google to disclose where the money comes from to pay for ads of a political nature. **THE CHANGE MUST HAPPEN NOW.**

Charlotte Band,
an angry American citizen

Comments provided by :
Band, Charlotte

All internet political ads should include full disclosure on who paid for them, just as is required for print and audiovisual media. Internet platforms should be held responsible for monitoring their ads to protect the American public.

Comments provided by :
Barkley, Alison

In reference to REG 2011-02:

As a marketing professional, I believe that people have a right to know who they are interacting with - whether that be face-to-face, through the television, or over the internet. To ensure that the American public can determine who they interact with, it is imperative that we force those who purchase ads on social media to reveal themselves and state the organization that they represent.

Comments provided by :
Barnes, William

We are watching closely that you do not enact regulations that will in any way dampen our First Amendment rights. If you allow the evil left to influence you into this mistake there will be consequences that you wont like.

Comments provided by :
BARNHILL, VANCE

Please protect our online speech and protect the Constitution.

Comments provided by :
Barott, Bruce

Protect our freedom of speech which does not include violence to include burning property, injury of any individual with an opposing view point.

Comments provided by :
Belcher, Marion

Protect free speech and protect the constitution.

Comments provided by :
Belcher, 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 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 :

Bell, Jordan

Federal Election Commission:

In the 2016 election, 65 percent of Americans identified the internet, or an online platform, as their leading source of information. Because of this, it is imperative that our transparency rules are updated by removing references to telegrams and typewriters and by applying these same transparency rules to online advertisements.

There is now strong evidence that Russian actors used social media platforms like Facebook to interfere with the 2016 presidential election. We must use every tool at our disposal, including ending secret online political ads, to prevent this from ever happening again, and to ensure that Americans know who is paying for the political ads they encounter, in the various media.

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

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

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Sincerely,

LeeAnn Bennett, American voter

Comments provided by :

Bennett, LeeAnn

We have to protect the internet for communication in all sectors, as the freedoms of this country are at stake if we loose the ability to get the word out about important ideas and events. We have to protect our 1st amendment and what it stands for. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Berry, Patty

I am writing to you to let you know of my support for strong rules on required disclosure of sources for internet advertising. I believe that any ad on social media, like those on television, on radio, on billboards etc., should have complete disclosure as to origin of the advertisement. I also believe that any proposed rules should be discussed in a public hearing. Thank you for reading my comments.

Comments provided by :
Biggins, Patricia

I would like to voice my support for more open government.

I support extending the definition of electioneering to online communications and require disclaimers and disclosures for paid political advertising on Internet platforms.

Comments provided by :
Birmingham, Rick

Please extend all (and more,) regulations to any and all online political ads. We need to know who is posting. This can't be allowed to continue. The public needs help in sorting it all out

Comments provided by :
Bishop , Patricia

the first ammendment,protects all speech.Not just speech that you agree with.

Comments provided by :
blake, stephen

America already has a problem with voter participation in elections. Lack of faith in our democracy will only make this problem worse. After 2016, it is abundantly clear that our election system is vulnerable to meddling via online advertising. The FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them, just as is required for television and print advertisements. We 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.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Boergers, Kathleen

Free speech must remain free and unfettered in all forms in the United States. Free speech must also be granted, guaranteed, and unregulated in the online environment as well. It simply is a founding principle of our country. Please dissolve any regulation that would limit, prohibit, or interfere with free speech.

Comments provided by :
Bondurant, Mark

you must protect my free speech rights!!!!!!

Comments provided by :
borgerson, timothy

Please do not regulate online speech. This is not legal. We need more freedom, not less. Freedom of speech is for words you do not agree with. Thanks Wade Briggs

Comments provided by :
Briggs, Wade

FREE SPEECH is a NATURAL LAW AND CONSTITUTIONAL LAW and NOT a Man made Law, therefore, NO law restricting FREE SPEECH should be considered by any Government.

Comments provided by :
Buckman, John

I strongly urge you to insure that all ads reflect who is paying for them. It is our right as Americans and consumers to know, particularly now where almost everything is online. Social media outlets say they are providing more openness & transparency on the source of their ads & posts, but government regulations are required to insure they actually do so.

Comments provided by :
Bull, Sherron

Please protect our 1st Amendment rights to Free Speech against those who are trying to silence the voices of those who disagree with their liberal/leftist ideas and agenda.

Comments provided by :
Burton, Jed

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

Comments provided by :
butterworth, lisa

Keep the internet Free. Follow the Constitution and the 1st Amendment Freedom of speech.

U.S. Constitution First Amendment

First Amendment

The First Amendment guarantees freedoms concerning religion, expression, assembly, and the right to petition. It forbids Congress from both promoting one religion over others and also restricting an individuals religious practices. It guarantees freedom of expression by prohibiting Congress from restricting the press or the rights of individuals to speak freely. It also guarantees the right of citizens to assemble peaceably and to petition their government.

Comments provided by :

Cajune, Bob

Please keep businesses and individuals honest and transparent to protect our democracy

Comments provided by :
Canini, Lisa

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

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

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

Transparency is a requirement for creating and maintaining a strong democracy. Disclaimers in advertising are a requirement to create an informed electorate.

Thank you for taking action to protect our democracy and helping to create an informed electorate.

Comments provided by :
Carman, Iris

Please write your comment here.

Uphold the Constitution! That is why you were put in office!

Comments provided by :
carpenter, Jon

The internet as a commercial industry is nearly twenty years old. It has matured beyond the point where it should be regulated like all other industries, especially because we have seen the "network effects" of platforms create powerful monopolies. Because the legacy media industries have managed to comply with FEC disclosure rules for political advertising, there is no business reason why digital advertising cannot also comply with equivalent rules. Certainly there will be design and technology challenges to achieve equal disclosure compliance to legacy media, but we can be confident that the same minds who were set to the task of microtargeting people for ads can be put to the task of building badly need transparency features.

However, digital media requires additional disclosure beyond what legacy media is required to convey to audiences. Because people's personal data is used to target advertising it is crucial that digital political ad disclosures not only supply the parties who paid for the placement but also citizens need to know precisely how they were targeted to receive any political campaign messages. Indeed, citizens need to transparently understand how their consumer and/or political activity and behaviors contribute towards a profile and segmentation that can lead to message targeting. If citizens cannot even attempt to understand how and why they are being targeted for political messages, we will be unable to understand how the electorate is being informed or worse, misinformed.

We can expect the industry to resist any and all forms of regulatory activity. Unfortunately, the businesses that have thrived in our democracy have not yet demonstrated their commitments to protecting our electoral process from foreign influences. The hearings with Facebook, Twitter, and Google in Congress have been deeply disappointing with regards to these companies accepting the necessity to agree to uniform ground rules and guard-rails to protect our electoral process with accountability. To that effect, we should understand the industry's preference to self-regulate as insufficient because the market has already demonstrated that it does not effectively incentivize these platforms who serve a global customer base to prioritize the needs of American democracy. However, whenever a nation or state legislates laws for tech platforms, they readily comply. Perhaps the only industry that is not subject to substantial regulation is the social media and digital advertising industry. Yet many other industries that are highly regulated, such as the automotive industry continue to innovate despite and because of their consumer protections and safety guardrails.

Social media and digital advertising is a maturing industry. It's ready to be regulated with smart, reasonable, and necessary rules of the road. The wild-west mentality is not sustainable for business nor democracy. The time has come to act despite the preference by many to continue to let the market run wild and unfettered, regardless of the costs, consequences, and externalities. The democratic process is unlikely to survive if policy makers do nothing and allow the status quo to remain unchallenged. The tech platforms let anyone in the world to target anyone else for any reason and they can do this anonymously. In that way, the electorate suffers from privacy erosion and opacity of targeting while the customers of tech platforms benefit from a surplus of privacy and transparency. This stark asymmetry must be addressed because the market has no incentives to disrupt this dynamic otherwise.

Comments provided by :
Carroll, David

Respect the Constitution and protect my free speech.

Comments provided by :
Cassens, John

Please require disclaimers on campaign ads online that reveal the source of their funding. Particularly given the recent history of ads originating in Russia in the last presidential campaign, this is clearly vital. The fact that your rules refer to typewriters and telegraphs indicates how out of date you are with people's sources of information. Well over 50% of people report using online sources for political information. Bring your rules for the web up to date with those for TV and newspapers.

Comments provided by :
Chase, Anne

Do not create any regulations that will limit free speech rights on the internet or any other type of media. Any such regulations will be met with legal challenges - you can be assured of that.

Comments provided by :
Chase, Paul

Please write your comment here. Attn: FEC, please I implore you to keep my and others with our Constitutional Rights of our 'FREEDOM OF SPEECH RIGHTS!!! I've observed THE CONSTITUTIONS of the United States of America, and the BILL OF RIGHTS with all my heart and soul. Please, and again, I IMPLORE YOU to act as loyal as I. and my family have.

Comments provided by :
Chavez, Ernest

Please keep the free speech going and do not let the left and the bureaucrats shut down. Conservative talk shows. I enjoy these shows and the information it gives me.

Comments provided by :
Christiansen, Anna

Please write your comment here.

I believe in free speech for all American Citizens, and I believe you have honor the right of freedom of speech as protected in the United States Constitution, this is your official duty.

Comments provided by :

Clark, Ned

As more citizens receive their news exclusively through the internet, we MUST move ahead with stronger rules on advertising disclaimers on internet political ads. They should be the same rules we have for radio and TV. Advertisements must be clearly labeled and the source of their funding named.

Citizens must be aware of the sources and apparent biases of advertising content they are exposed to. Voting against these measures is voting for a future of misinformation and public ignorance, a true danger to the future of democracy in the US.

Comments provided by :
Claxon, Amy

The Freedom of speech is part of our Constitution and not privied to Liberal Communists only.

Comments provided by :
Collins, Chuck

I think it is extremely important for all political ads clearly state who is paying for them. I also believe all organizations that do ANY political activities clearly disclose every single person and corporation that support them; be publically disclosed.
Dark money is the enemy of all free societies.

Comments provided by :
Connor, Sheri

Please protect online speech now.

Comments provided by :
Conrad, Gregory

We need to know who is paying for all the political advertisements, on TV, print media, and on the web. All advertisements should be clearly labeled with the person or organizational responsible, with a link to show their funding sources.

Comments provided by :
Conway, Andrew

Don't take away the rights of the First Amendment.

God Bless America in Jesus' Name!

Comments provided by :
Coppie, Glen

If you want REVOLUTION, then just keep trying to get rid of your Constitution. Simple as that.

Comments provided by :
CORUM, ROBERT

To Whom it May Concern,

I'm appalled by social media's lack of oversight allowing for manipulation and subterfuge. I support the following changes. First, Americans deserve to know who is paying for ads on sites like Facebook and Twitter, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Further, revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see ads in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Finally, social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users, but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you,
Jamey Crawford

Comments provided by :
Crawford, Jamey

In light of recent disclosures of massive ad buys by Russians intent on swaying the 2016 presidential election, it is crucial that those who purchase political ads on social media, on television, or on radio be required to disclose who they are and where they are based. The status quo is not tenable in a democracy. The American public should be able to instantly know who paid for a given political ad, whether it is broadcast on TV or radio, printed in a newspaper, or shared on Internet platforms. This is not a radical notion. It is how electioneering is handled on other media platforms. While more transparency was rendered to radio, TV and satellite stations by the Federal Communications Commission through the concerted legal action of advocacy groups, "dark ads" have flourished online.

We cannot leave the fate of our democracy to chance by trusting corporations to self-regulate, especially after after a decade of technology companies shirking the public interest for commercial interest, reaping billions of dollars in profits. Federal election regulations need to be updated for the post-Citizens United era, in which anyone (from any country) can sway elections if they have enough money.

Comments provided by :
Cresseveur, Jessica

The right to free speech includes the Internet as do newspapers. It's called common sense. Common sense still exists, right?

Comments provided by :
crocker, cynthia

I want ALL advertising & News articles by foreign governments and/or foreign agencies to be required to state their country of origin. IÂ'm sick & tired of Russia & other countries representing themselves as American or USA.

Comments provided by :
Curry, Marcia

Please protect my First amendment right under our Constitution. My free speech will be infringed if the FEC is allowed to limit,or regulate, conservative content,speeches,broadcasts,writings,etc.

Comments provided by :
Davey, Maureen

i insist that you do everything in your power to protect free speech online, and resist/block all attempts from anyone or any organization who try to take away the right to free speech.

Comments provided by :
Davis, Glenn

When voters or consumers are seeing messages designed to persuade the reader, they must be informed of the source of the information. Who is saying it and what are their possible motives for the claims being made. This must be on all political and commercial advertisements to arm the consumer with at least a minimum base knowledge of the source before relying on the printed or spoken words.

Even the most wary can be fooled by tested methods which deceive viewers into believing things not actually stated but that are untrue. Viewers have a chance to be skeptical if given source information. It is up to the FCC to set reasonable guidelines for what and how to fairly inform viewers of the sources of paid ads. Consumers will know to look for and be alert by this knowledge before believing.

Comments provided by :

Dean, Sue E.

The faintest possibility that foreign interests swayed the 2016 elections by purchasing political ads and infiltrating social media is both horrific and appalling.

The American people deserve to know who's paying for political material seen on the internet. The FEC must hold a full Commission public hearing to investigate what happened and take immediate steps to make rules to protect the 2018 elections and all elections going forward. We simply cannot have a government that is in thrall to any foreign power.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Dearborn, Gregory

With regards to REG 2001-02 Internet Communication Disclaimers, I favor strong disclosure requirements to protect the public's right to know. The public deserves to know who is paying for political ads on sites such as Facebook and Twitter. Online disclaimers in real time should be mandatory. Voluntary compliance by the aforementioned companies is not adequate.

Comments provided by :
Depew, Robert

End attacks to commercialize Internet. It's the world's library and no one can own it or control it to their liking ever!
End spying on America!

Comments provided by :
Dettrick, Donna

You must respect the Constitution and the rights of the people of this great nation. Do not regulate my online political speech.

Comments provided by :
Dickerson, Cathy

I strongly support requiring that the funding source of online political ads be disclosed exactly as required for ads in traditional media. There is no meaningful difference between a Facebook ad and a TV political add and both should have the same disclosurer requirements.

Comments provided by :
Dickinson, Katherine

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

We, as 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.?

Don't those numbers speak for themselves? Please do the right thing.

Thank you!

Comments provided by :
DiJoseph, Terry

The first amendment was specifically to protect political and religious speech. Do not undermine it.

Comments provided by :

Doak, Jana

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

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

Comments provided by :

Duhigg , Katy

I think it is important that political advertisements have clear disclaimers, not only to alert people to the fact that it is NOT news, but also so that people can see WHO they are coming from and determine for themselves if they are being misled.

Comments provided by :
Dulin, George

Demanding more transparency can only be a good thing, especially in light of what has come to light on Facebook. Please do so -- strengthen the regulations. Thanks.

Comments provided by :
Dungan-Levant, Timothy

Free speech is meant to take place where ever it can take place in America. Lets keep our minds open to new technology where free speech is meant to happen along with the old ways free speech is occurring. Keep defending freedom of speech even if it means putting up a fight.

Comments provided by :
Ebner, Robert

Dear Sir/Madam,

Rather than impose new regulations on Free Speech (internet) I ask you today...Your job is to review regulations on radio and TV and ROLL BACK regulations that no longer apply and are impeding Free Speech.... STAY AWAY FROM THE INTERNET and ROLL BACK REGULATIONS on speech from FCC

The internet is THE PEOPLE'S!!

The Government has NO right to have or give away rights to the Internet!

Comments provided by :

Eby, Jason

As a citizen, I urge the FEC to reopen rule making and hold hearings with technology companies about regulations for transparency about the payers and content of online ads. With what we have learned about foreign interference in our elections and false ads designed to turn Americans against each other, it is clear we deserve better.

The American public should be able to instantly know who paid for a given political ad, whether it's broadcast on TV or radio, printed in a newspaper, or shared on Internet platforms. Online political ads should have clear, plain language disclaimers that connect to a verified entity. Every company that takes money to run political ads should maintain a publicly available file of those purchases.

Comments provided by :
Edwards-Hewitt, Jim

Sers commenting

Comments provided by :
Erny, Tim

We deserve to know who is paying for ads online just as we do on other platforms.

Comments provided by :
Essom, Devon

Don?t let Putin and his allies interfere in American elections again. Require online campaign ads to include disclaimers as to who is paying for them ? just like what is done for television and print advertisements. Americans deserve transparent information about who is paying for communication with a goal of influencing their votes. Let the sun shine in!

Comments provided by :
Falzer, Gloria

Please write your comment here.

I find it very up setting to think it has came to this! that you would try to take a way free speech!!! GOD GUNS AND GUT's made America Free and GOD GUNS AND GUT"S will keep her free no matter what!!!

Comments provided by :

Farley, Todd

My Constitutional rights are God given. They are protected by the US CONSTITUTION.
The US Government, or any other government did not grant my constitutional rights, nor can they take them away.

Comments provided by :
farrell, David

Pleas do not regulate free speech online

Comments provided by :
Feinberg, Susan

U.S. citizens deserve true and complete information when it comes to elections. So-called 'dark money' and misinformation are two current rampant problems, with even foreign players getting in on the manipulation! Stand up for America! Stand up for democracy! Require that online campaign ads include disclaimers about who is paying for them! This requirement is already required for television and print advertisements; it's time to catch up to the digital age! 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. Already, Europe has protections in place; why not the U.S.? A predominance of Americans get their news online; ensuring that such important decisions as elections are made based on full and accurate information is crucial to our democracy! We need to be able to 'consider the source' when evaluating information. Current 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. It falls upon you to make this happen! Otherwise, you must step down from your post as you would be unfit to serve the FEC and indeed this country. Please uphold our democracy and require full disclosures for all campaign ads regardless of medium. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Finger, Kathleen

The FEC disclaimer rules need to change. As an American citizen concerned about the transparency of political advertising, particularly in light of reports of massive Russian meddling, please hold a public hearing on this issue, and act to preserve the integrity of our free and fair elections.

Comments provided by :
Fitzpatrick, Kathleen

Our representative form of government and electoral process is of paramount importance. Nefarious influences could destabilize the system and jeopardize our freedom. Transparency in the origin and ownership of political ads online will go a long way in assuring a process that is free from unwanted outside influences while not abridging anyone's freedom of speech rights. It is required for political ads on TV and radio, the internet should not be any different. If we cannot bar entities from outside our nation from trying to influence our elections, transparency in political ads online will at least provide us with insight as to who is placing the ads and it is up to us to determine their motives.

Please regulate political ads online in such a way as to provide transparency.

Thank You.

Greg Flynn
New Smyrna Beach, Florida

Comments provided by :
Flynn, Greg

Do not limit our speech, those with conservative view

Comments provided by :
Fong, Fred

please just do your job and stay out of government.

Comments provided by :
forton, robert

Please don't help turn this country anymore socialistic than what it already. Don't mess with the internet.

Comments provided by :

Fouch, Dan

Please support free speech in all areas of life - educational schools, press/media, churches and work place. This is vital for a nation to remain free!

Comments provided by :
Francis, Louise

You must protect our right to free speech on line.

Comments provided by :
Franco, Nadene

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 :
Freedlund, Janine

Political ads on the internet require the same regulation as TV & radio ads, and voters deserve to know where the funding for internet political ads comes from, just like anything else

Comments provided by :
Fry, Nancy

Please write your comment here.it will be a cold day in h when they try to stop me from voicing my thoughts

Comments provided by :
gaigler, Howard

Democracy needs both transparency and accountability. Without them, it is impossible for citizens to have the confidence in public institutions needed for democracy to flourish. Please increase the transparency and accountability standards for internet communications, especially with respect to political advertising, fake news, etc.

Comments provided by :
Gallaway, Terrel

As a former newspaper reporter, I feel we need transparency in knowing the source of sponsorship for Internet posts and ads concerning policy positions and political topics. Without that knowledge, people cannot accurately form their own opinions, and are subject to the effects of disinformation or meddling in electoral affairs by other countries, among other concerns. Please take steps necessary to provide full knowledge of the source of these posts and advertisements in order to preserve and protect the integrity and independence of our electoral process. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Garcia, Nancy

I and all Americans have a right to know who is behind political advertisements posted online. When I hear political advertisements on TV or radio, I always hear "paid for by.." which helps me assess the information. When I read political information online, there is often no clue about where the information comes from. And I use the internet for most of my information. This lack of transparency is not fair to us. And with the likelihood of outside governments posting information to help them, not us, and we don't know it, I believe our democracy is threatened as they successfully manipulate what we believe. Please review and bring your rules into the 21st century.

Comments provided by :
Gazda, Kate

I call on you to establish new guidelines regarding online political spending

I understand that TV, newspaper, and mailed information must provide the source of the content. But, the internet has not been updated with this requirement for transparency. In view of the Russian hacking of our election in 2016 of Facebook, Google, and Twitter to try to influence our election, I feel it would be prudent to require online information to post the financial source.

Comments provided by :

Geisler, Carol

How dare you abrogate my First Amendment rights! How many Republicans do angry Conservatives have to vote into office in order to insure a government that abides by our country's Constitution? We'll do whatever it takes to protect our ability speak freely in public forums. You've been warned.

Comments provided by :
Grancell-Frank, Barbara

I understand that you are considering limiting free political speech online. That would be an assault on the US Constitution and unethical. I say NO to this proposal.
Protect our CONSTITUTION!

Comments provided by :
Greer, Donald

Political advertisements are of course a normal part of elections, since the time we have had elections. In the early days, posted notices, handbills, and newspaper ads were the only means to reach the voting public other than live speeches. Back then, the origin of each ad was pretty easy to trace, so that truth could be tested.

With more modern communications, this has changed so much that the origin of broadcast, and more importantly, on-line targeted ads are almost impossible to determine. The recipient cannot determine the truth or validity of the claims in the ad.

In particular, ads coming from a foreign government, even though masked to appear to have domestic origin are the worst of all. If we are to keep our democratic voting process free of direct interference by foreign governments, these ads must be stopped.

Comments provided by :
Gregg, Paul

Please write your comment here.gov has no right to not fallow are laws. And they are good laws. Certain people are so corrupt in this country I hope we will win against the evil and corrupt!

Comments provided by :
Grenke, Teresa

PROTECT ONLINE FREE SPEECH!

Comments provided by :
Groenewold, Lisa

Please write your comment here. Who is going to play judge and jury to determine what is allowed??? Will there be published criteria??? What credentials will these gods have???

Comments provided by :
Hager, Del

Please protect our free speech online. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Hall, Nallie

It is insanity that in a time when more people communicate via social media than any other means, when more people get their 'news' from social media than via regular broadcast means (radio, TV, print), and when communication from everywhere and anyone can be propagated within seconds to a massive audience, that it is even in debate whether or not political advertising on social media should be regulated. Of course it should. This has been shown to be a danger to our democracy, and will only become moreso until you take appropriate action.

Comments provided by :
Hallgren, Scott

Please stop this nonsense of Net Neutrality!
Online Free Speech is my right!

Comments provided by :
Hamilton, Sharon

I want to know which groups, organizations, corporations, individuals are funding online and tv advertisements. This information helps me sift through the claims, research bias and make informed decisions. This information should be easily available. thank you

Comments provided by :
hand, Jnana

Please write your comment here. The Constitution protects free speech and i ask you to do all that you can to keep it that way.

Comments provided by :
Hannah, David

I believe that online political advertisements should require the following:

- a disclosure of the person/group paying for the ad
- a disclosure of the person/group who created the ad
- a legally required internal review/verification process for an ad platform who published political advertising

This federally mandated review process would ensure that the first two disclosures are not only made but verified (is the person/group registered with the FEC or whatever the requirement is) and tracked in a way that's complete and accountable to the FEC.

The impact that dubious political advertising, especially that which originated outside of the United States, is heartbreaking and alarming. The foot-dragging and obfuscation we've seen by many of the tech platforms that profited off these ads is infuriating.

It's imperative that we learn from this experience and implement safeguards to ensure that any attempt to influence our democratic process be transparent, trackable, and accountable.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Hanson, Forrest

There is too much POLITICAL CORRECTNESS EVERY WHERE, and it's DESTROYING OUR COUNTRY. Just for start's, you can start with this.!!

Comments provided by :
Hapka, Joseph

We have a right to know.

Comments provided by :
Hart, Pat

All political ads on the internet should be required to identify who paid for them.

Comments provided by :
Heckman, Richard

THERE IS NO REASON WHY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CANT SEE THE INFORMATION OF RUSSIAN ADS THAT COMPROMISED OUR ELECTION PROCESS! HIDING IT MAKES YOU AN ACCESSORY TO THE CRIMES RUSSIA HAS COMMITTED. PRETTY DISGUSTING WHEN YOU ARE HARBORING RUSSIA AND ALL THE CRIMINAL ELEMENTS. SHAME ON YOU FOR NOT PROTECTING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. SHAME ON YOU FOR SELLING OUT OUR COUNTRY. SHAME ON YOU FOR PUTTING RUSSIAN PROPAGANDA ON OUR TV AND IN OUR NEWSPAPER ARTICLES SHAMEFUL AND UN-AMERICAN AND WE WILL WIN AGAINST PUTIN!

Comments provided by :
HEINZ, LISA

There needs to be oversight of who pays for ads on Facebook, Twitter, Google and others to ensure that foreign governments are not putting lies to cause issues with the American people. There were as we know from Congressional investigations that these companies found evidence from IP addresses that information to cause discourse as well as meddling in our elections happened. The people that get their news this way need accurate information not rumors created by Russia, ISIS or any other power intending to meddle.

This is how Hitler came to power!

Comments provided by :
Hemphill, Miriam

Please protect free online speech

Comments provided by :
hernandez, efrain

Hello, I am writing about an issue that is of great concern to me. I am writing to support strong online disclosure rules. We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online. Social media companies like Facebook and Twitter say that they are taking voluntary steps to provide this information to their users - but we need the FEC to provide regulations that can actually be enforced. I really don't think FB and Twitter are doing enough about these issues. I think we need additional, clear regulations. I think this is an important issue for the health of our democracy.

Comments provided by :
Hernandez, Mara

I ask that you, at all times, act for the full preservation of our constitutional rights, most importantly all aspects of FREE SPEECH.

DO NOT ALLOW IT TO BE INFRINGED OR ABRIDGED.

Comments provided by :
Herring, John

Please write your comment here.

Comments provided by :
Herzog, Tim

American citizens need to know WHO is paying for any advertisement.

Comments provided by :
Hillary, Sally

Please write your comment here. Don't let imbedded politicians restrict our political speech on the internet or any where else. We will never get it back.

Comments provided by :
Hillmann, Doulas

The American public deserves to know who is paying for political ads and the big money financiers that spend tens of millions of dollars to influence the average voter.

Enough is enough with this political corruption! The little guy deserves the truth and it is up to you to stand up and do THE RIGHT THING and at least require information that reveals who is paying for these ads REGARDLESS of Party.

Comments provided by :

Hiner, Laurence

Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) should be subject to the same disclosure rules for political advertising as broadcast TV and radio. Please hold public hearings on this, and implement rules as soon as possible. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Hluska, Rose

Please do not change how the internet is operating. America remains free and a beacon for others because free access to information & ideas

Comments provided by :
Hodges, Laura

We need more transparency in social media, particularly around who is paying to present messages to us. Political speech should be open and honest, not disguised as social content to deceive and obscure the message and its source.

Comments provided by :
Hoeflin, Stephanie

Please do not add regulations that limit free speech online. We are guaranteed this by our Bill of Rights. The technology has changed since these were added to our Constitution but online expression CLEARLY meets its intent. It is not your agency's place to limit the Constitution but it is its honorable and needed role to protect it.

Comments provided by :
Hogan, Karen

Leftists are trying to undermine our constitutional rights and silence our conservative voices by pressuring the FEC to regulate our speech online.

Protect online free speech right now.

Our first amendment rights are under attack.

The Left is trying silence conservative voices like Ben Shapiro, Betsy DeVos, and Donald Trump Jr. on college campuses.

Stop the Left's unconstitutional crusade.

Comments provided by :
Holder, Chad

Leftists are trying to undermine our constitutional rights and silence our conservative voices by pressuring the FEC to regulate our speech online.

Protect online free speech right now.

Our first amendment rights are under attack.

The Left is trying silence conservative voices like Ben Shapiro, Betsy DeVos, and Donald Trump Jr. on college campuses.

Stop the Left's unconstitutional crusade.

Comments provided by :
Holder, Mary

Leftists are trying to undermine our constitutional rights and silence our conservative voices by pressuring the FEC to regulate our speech online.

Protect online free speech right now.

Our first amendment rights are under attack.

The Left is trying silence conservative voices like Ben Shapiro, Betsy DeVos, and Donald Trump Jr. on college campuses.

Stop the Left's unconstitutional crusade.

Comments provided by :
Holder, Sonja

We need stronger rules on advertising disclaimers on internet political ads--and to hold public hearings on this matter--because we live in an age of constant bombardment and dubious motives. It must be immediately clear when paid advertising is appearing and who is paying for its placement so that viewers can judge the provenance and likely intent behind partisan ads that masquerade as truth.

Democracy depends on an informed public. Use your power to help keep the public informed, not mislead or lied to.

Comments provided by :
Hoppe, Anne

I believe strongly that we need to identify who is behind advertising directing a person to vote for a candidate and also advertising that attempts to influence a person to vote in a specific way. With the flood of "dark money" entering our elections, we need to understand who is funding ads so that we can discern the motivation behind the expenditure, be it foreign interference or an attempt to tilt legislation to favor a person or business. Sunlight is a great disinfectant. Our democracy thrives when we know who is influencing our elected representatives.

Comments provided by :
Howell, Martha

Please revise your rules to add transparency and accountability to online political ads. I agree with the Sunlight Foundation and would like all of their suggestions to be implemented. Their suggestions are described here:
<https://sunlightfoundation.com/2017/11/09/please-tell-the-fec-why-you-support-more-sunshine-in-online-political-ads/>

Comments provided by :
Hreha, Tim

All ads, whether in print or online in news sources or online in social media, should display who paid for it. And not just with "paid by for XXX Pac?". We need to know who is trying to manipulate our votes.

Comments provided by :
Hunsberger, Michelina

It is past time for Election regulations to keep up with changes in technology. The same laws should apply to FB Twitter etc. as apply to televised ads.

Comments provided by :
Hunter, Susan

Strong online disclosure rules protect Americans' right to know who is trying to influence us by advertising online. We deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, in real-time. Revised transparency rules should reflect how we communicate and see advertising in the 21st Century, which is increasingly online.

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

Comments provided by :
Hutt, Evelyn

Our Democracy is in shambles after the 2016 election. It is clear that Russia interfered with our election by targeting voters with fake ads and stories that would push their buttons. We need to do everything in our power to make sure political ads are labeled as such and clearly labeled who paid for them. If we don't change these rules, our democracy is doomed. Facts don't seem to matter anymore and the current guy in the white house is pushing that theme with all his supporters. Please update the laws!

Comments provided by :
jackson, suzanne

It's important to know where information comes from online.

Comments provided by :
Jahneke, Erika

Please protect Free Speech online.

Comments provided by :
Jenner, Carlene

No big money in politics! Keep our election clean

Comments provided by :
Johnson, Bob

I believe it is imperative that the US set standards and requirements for presenting public information on who is setting up, buying, creating, sponsoring and who is represented in Political Ads and other Political information presented in Social Media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. That we in the US do not have active investigations of Foreign Entities involvement in Influencing Our Elections is Tragic. That even misinformation was spread about voting times and polling places etc. and was not investigated and punished is a glaring flaw in our Federal Election Standards. I support the extension of existing Political Ad regulation and its application to Social Media just as it is applied to print and broadcast sources. Please record my opinion in this matter.

Comments provided by :
Johnson, Thomas A.

In order to protect the integrity of the American election process, we need to have a public hearing regarding Internet Communication Disclaimers, and take action so that American citizens and their interests are fairly represented.

Comments provided by :
Jones, Samantha

Please expand disclosure requirements to online political advertising. The American people need to know who is behind these messages in order to evaluate their validity and usefulness. Given both the current political climate domestically and Russia's interference in our 2016 elections, the FEC needs to ramp up its oversight of online political advertising. Sunlight is the best disinfectant.

Comments provided by :
Kaiser, Donna

Government has too much control of our lives now. I don't want to live in socialist or communist state.

Comments provided by :
Karmann, Linda

Please Protect Christian & Conservative Speech Online!!!

Comments provided by :
Kaufman, Robert

Please Protect Christian & Conservative Speech Online!!!

Comments provided by :
Kaufman, Robert

Please Protect Christian & Conservative Speech Online!!!

Comments provided by :
Kaufman, Robert

Please Protect Christian & Conservative Speech Online!!!

Comments provided by :
Kaufman, Robert

Please Protect Christian & Conservative Speech Online!!!

Comments provided by :
Kaufman, Robert

Please require election, issue and political advertisements to identify the group which paid for the ad. Ads on behalf of a candidate should require the candidate to approve of the ad. Hearings on this issue are important.

Comments provided by :
Kendall, Jocelyn

Russians interfered in our 2016 election. You need to hold a public hearing concerning changes to make sure that all political ads have complete owning information. We want our elections and our Democracy to be free and fair.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Kerst, Ashley

Please follow the Constitution. Protect everyone's right to free speech online.

Comments provided by :
Key, Connie

The lack of transparency for political ad spending created a significant vulnerability in our public accountability laws that foreign entities and unscrupulous, unaccountable special interests are exploiting.

Congressional hearings made it clear to everyone that social media platforms were used by Russians used to influence the 2016 election. The full extent of that interference is still not understood publicly, even now, but there's a growing of evidence that show when, how and who attempted to influence the election.

In 2015, former FEC chair Ann Ravel asked if the nation wanted Vladimir Putin or drug cartels to be influencing American elections?. She was prescient. The Honest Ads Act would mandate transparency & accountability to online paid political ads:

The status quo is not tenable. The American public should be able to instantly know who paid for a given political ad, whether it's broadcast on TV or radio, printed in a newspaper, or shared on Internet platforms.

Online political ads should have clear, plain language disclaimers that connect to a verified entity. Every company that takes money to run political ads should maintain a publicly available file of those purchases.

This isn't a radical notion: it's how electioneering is handled on other media platforms! While more transparency was rendered to radio, TV and satellite stations by the Federal Communications Commission through the concerted legal action of Sunlight and our allies, "dark ads" have flourished online.

Self-regulation isn't good enough after a decade of technology companies shirking the public interest for commercial interest, reaping billions of dollars in profits.

Faced with the prospect of legislative action, Twitter, Facebook and Google committed to voluntarily improving transparency about the political ads that appear on their platforms, modeling their plans for disclosures and disclaimers on the Honest Ads Act, as with Google announcing its intention to create a public database.

These commitments are welcome, meaningful and constructive, but insufficient to the information needs of the public and improving the health of democracy. Technology companies can and should integrate more transparency, accountability and ethics about paid political advertising into their platforms, by default, but that's not enough to encode core public interest values into the public squares of today.

Congress should act to ensure disclosures and disclaimers are neither discretionary nor uneven. Adding disclaimers and disclosures don't mean renouncing business or chilling speech, any more than has been the case for TV or radio stations.

They would make it harder for political actors and entities that cannot ethically or legally participate in elections to do so, which is one reason the Honest Ads Act has a significant and vital foreign policy constituency.

You should know that we haven't been sitting idle this year. When Congress asked us for ideas, we helped draft the Honest Ads Act. We are proud and honored to contribute to a constructive legislative remedy, but it isn't enough.

No singular bill, regulation or order can solve all of the issues that social media present for our democracy, but the Honest Ads Act would add much needed transparency and accountability to platforms that did not embed those democratic values in by default, and the FEC should be empowered to act.

Comments provided by :
King, Lucille

As a citizen, knowing who is behind political ads is critical to making good decisions.

As a software developer, showing who is behind political ads is an easily solvable technical challenge, well within the capability of major tech companies.

Please help reinforce our democracy by adopting a disclosure rule.

Comments provided by :
Koppel, Alex

I am in favor of better internet disclaimer rules.

I want to know who's paying for all the political material I see on the internet.

I want the FEC to move forward with this rule-making and protect the 2018 elections and all future elections!

Comments provided by :

Kostuck, Robert

As long as there is money in politics there will be no free and fair elections. No more pacs, no more donors, and no more lobbyists. We must ALL be equal when it comes to voting but as long as there are big money donors that will never happen.

Comments provided by :
Kovacs, Gabor

The American public should be able to instantly know who paid for a given political ad, whether it's broadcast on TV or radio, printed in a newspaper, or shared on Internet platforms.

Self-regulation isn't good enough after a decade of technology companies shirking the public interest for commercial interest, reaping billions of dollars in profits. This is patently obvious.

Adding disclaimers and disclosures doesn't mean renouncing business or chilling speech, any more than has been the case for TV or radio stations. Adding online electioneering to the roster of other media channels is simply keeping up with technology.

If we want to preserve the integrity of democratic elections, we should make it harder for political actors and entities that cannot ethically or legally participate in elections to do so.

Comments provided by :
Krumova, Elena

Facebook, Google, Twitter and other massive corporations should NOT be exempt from political ad rules. They have the technology to make this information available, they will have to figure out how to do so and if it costs them money - that's okay. They should have to play by the same rules. Quite honestly, until we know what is going down, there should be NO political ads sold online, but I'm not sure how to police that. But you should have a plan. Either way, they make billions in advertising, they can figure out how to be very clear with who is paying for political ads. We need full disclosure and we needed it a long time ago. Hold them accountable. The FEC needs to STEP UP and protect citizens. Uphold democracy and the republic against powerful forces of giant corporations and hidden money in politics. We need strong measures. Normal people are under attack from a firehose of massive advertising. These large corporations are managing mass media even more powerful than networks. Hold them accountable.

Comments provided by :
Lambert, Susan

The American people deserve to know who is paying for political advertisements. Disclosure helps protect our right to know who's trying to influence our votes. The FEC must update campaign advertising rules now.

Comments provided by :
Lawler, Dan

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

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

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

We need strong, modern disclosure rules for online ads.

Thank you for your support

Comments provided by :
Lee, Madeleine

Don?t let Putin and his allies interfere in American elections again. Require online campaign ads to include disclaimers as to who is paying for them ? just like what is done for television and print advertisements. Americans deserve transparent information about who is paying for communication with a goal of influencing their votes.

Comments provided by :
Lee, Robbie

I want to know the details of all parties involved who advertise and solicit information throughout the internet and on all social networks. Transparency supports equality.

Comments provided by :
Lespier, Daisy

Russia ran an unrepentant deception campaign on social media that if the numbers Facebook alone has published would have reached EVERY American. This is a massive problem because it's continually harder to differentiate real news and fake news in large part because of this and the President's continued attacks in the press.

It's extremely important to know who is paying for these political ads, especially if they are being paid for in Rubles. Please push for full transparency when it comes to who's paying for advertising

Comments provided by :
Levitch, Colin

It's time to update our laws and regulations to reflect the reality that new technology demands. Without meaningful guard rails in place, anarchy and chaos reigns. We need now to demonstrate through meaningful and realistic new rules that we have every intention to protect our democracies future from continuing assault and corruption. Not all speech is protected speech. Speech with the obvious intent of being decisive and manipulative needs to be suppressed.

Comments provided by :
lewis, Anthony

Given how much Russian poured into our public communications & how much it affected voters (here in Blue Oregon I've met 2 people who were misled by Russian lies), it is extremely important that the writers of all political messages be correctly identified--including those who pay for their ads in rubles.

Comments provided by :
Lezak, Muriel

1, the fec should be non-partisan and not appointed nor selected through party affiliation.

#2 there are so many problems throughout so many states, south, midwest and atlantic coast, with partisan politics in those states voting laws, policies to disenfranchise voters rather than ones which may encourage more americans to vote. there is a lot of documentation about the effect of these policies.

#3 there is much documentation that the refrain of so many dishonest votes in these same states, has no validity whatsoever. the commission needs to take a stand against these allegations.

there are clearly policies and practices which have contributed to the above situations. it may well be that the only answer is to have a non-partisan, voter-led commission set out policies to apply to every state, leaving states to figure out how to implement greater voting numbers within their own states. some of these should include extension of voting days, extension of where people can cast their ballot, not simply their residence area, paper-countable ballots, public service information on means to register and better yet, automatic registration upon obtaining other documentation such as driver licenses, health insurance, marriage license, etc..

the gov't in every state should be in the business of believing that their job is to enable all citizens to exercise their right and responsibility to vote.

Comments provided by :

lherrou, patricia

Today, I myself and tens of thousands of Americans are telling the Federal Election Commission to reopen a rulemaking to consider revising regulations for online communications that mandate disclosure and disclaimers for paid political advertising and hold a public hearing with the technology companies that serve ads to billions of people on the Internet.

Secrecy enables fraud and lies to breed in the shadow. Sunshine disinfects corruption and clarifies confusion about what happened, when, where, to whom, how, and why it matters.

The status quo is not tenable. The American public should be able to instantly know who paid for a given political ad, whether it's broadcast on TV or radio, printed in a newspaper, or shared on Internet platforms.

The lack of transparency for political ad spending created a significant vulnerability in our public accountability laws that foreign entities and unscrupulous, unaccountable special interests are exploiting.

Congressional hearings made it clear to everyone that social media platforms were used by Russians used to influence the 2016 election. The full extent of that interference is still not understood publicly, even now, but there's a growing of evidence that show when, how and who attempted to influence the election.

In 2015, former FEC chair Ann Ravel asked if the nation wanted Vladimir Putin or drug cartels to be influencing American elections?. She was prescient. The Honest Ads Act would mandate transparency & accountability to online paid political ads.

Online political ads should have clear, plain language disclaimers that connect to a verified entity. Every company that takes money to run political ads should maintain a publicly available file of those purchases.

Congress should act to ensure disclosures and disclaimers are neither discretionary nor uneven. Adding disclaimers and disclosures don't mean renouncing business or chilling speech, any more than has been the case for TV or radio stations.

They would make it harder for political actors and entities that cannot ethically or legally participate in elections to do so, which is one reason the Honest Ads Act has a significant and vital foreign policy constituency.

No singular bill, regulation or order can solve all of the issues that social media present for our democracy, but the Honest Ads Act would add much needed transparency and accountability to platforms that did not embed those democratic values in by default, and the FEC should be empowered to act.

Thank you for your consideration.

Comments provided by :
Lindeman, Darlene

If "fake news" exists today, it has its roots in social media. Please take action to force social media outlets to identify the source (s) of social commentary. We need a chance to understand WHO is trying to influence our thinking and WHY.

Comments provided by :
Lindeman, Peter

The revelations from the past election cycle show the ability of our adversaries to weaponize social media for their own purposes. Tech companies can't be relied on to self-police because advertising is their lifeblood.

Social media is a key part of a new battlefield. If we don't bring our best game to it, we will surely lose. We need updated disclosure rules that provide ad funding transparency in real time, not months later. The American people deserve no less.

Comments provided by :
Linden, Greg

Please make it legally required to reveal the source and funding of ALL political advertising I receive, especially via the INTERNET. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Lipsky, Richard

The United States of America has fallen off the online disclosure cliff that Sunlight has warned of for years. The lack of transparency for political ad spending created a significant vulnerability in our public accountability laws that foreign entities and unscrupulous, unaccountable special interests are exploiting.

Congressional hearings made it clear to everyone that social media platforms were used by Russians used to influence the 2016 election. The full extent of that interference is still not understood publicly, even now.

The status quo is not tenable. The American public should be able to instantly know who paid for a given political ad, whether it's broadcast on TV or radio, printed in a newspaper, or shared on Internet platforms. Online political ads should have clear, plain language disclaimers that connect to a verified entity. Every company that takes money to run political ads should maintain a publicly available file of those purchases.

This isn't a radical notion: it's how electioneering is handled on other media platforms! While more transparency was rendered to radio, TV and satellite stations by the Federal Communications Commission through the concerted legal action of Sunlight and our allies, "dark ads" have flourished online.

Self-regulation isn't good enough after a decade of technology companies shirking the public interest for commercial interest, reaping billions of dollars in profits. Faced with the prospect of legislative action, Twitter, Facebook and Google committed to voluntarily improving transparency about the political ads that appear on their platforms, modeling their plans for disclosures and disclaimers on the Honest Ads Act, as with Google announcing its intention to create a public database.

These commitments are welcome, meaningful and constructive, but insufficient to the information needs of the public and improving the health of democracy. Technology companies can and should integrate more transparency, accountability and ethics about paid political advertising into their platforms, by default, but that's not enough to encode core public interest values into the public squares of today.

Congress should act to ensure disclosures and disclaimers are neither discretionary nor uneven. Adding disclaimers and disclosures don't mean renouncing business or chilling speech, any more than has been the case for TV or radio stations. They would make it harder for political actors and entities that cannot ethically or legally participate in elections to do so, which is one reason the Honest Ads Act has a significant and vital foreign policy constituency. Secrecy enables fraud and lies to breed in the shadow. Sunshine disinfects corruption and clarifies confusion about what happened, when, where, to whom, how, and why it matters. Please revise the rules on disclaimers on certain communications made over the Internet.

Comments provided by :
Logan, donna

Based on all the information coming to light regarding politically motivated advertisements coming out of Russia on Facebook, Twitter, and Google, it is imperative that to protect our elections and freedom in the U.S.A. we need to implement stronger rules on advertising disclaimers on internet political advertisements. Additionally, we need to hold open, public hearings on these issues.

Comments provided by :

Long, A

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

Comments provided by :
Lotero, Alexandra

Follow the constitution. The government needs to stay out of the internet.

Comments provided by :
maggard, john

Social media has enabled communication of all sorts? personal, political and business. It is the political domain that I would like to address.

Presently the American people do not know who is behind political advertisements.

Political advertisements should be labeled as such and should also include what individual or organization or business is financing the advertisement.

Comments provided by :

Majestic, Elizabeth

Who the hell do you people think you are. Ever hear of freedom of speech or the Constitution. Butt out of if our lives.

Comments provided by :

Mason, Larry

The internet disclaimers need to be much more transparent and thorough. Public hearings should be the first step in this process. We should all be able to take part in a thorough review process so that we have complete assurances that things are as they seem and not hidden behind layers of mystery with no accountability to the truth.

Comments provided by :
Matthews, J.

It is imperative that you require online ads to divulge who is sponsoring them, just as we do for the radio and television. With more people getting their information online, this requirement is essential to keeping citizens aware of their sources of information.

Comments provided by :
McCarty, Anne

To comment on this we're required to submit personal information along with our "vote" on this topic. It's only reasonable and logical that simple, similar identification should be required of those trying to influence votes for candidates through political ads.

Comments provided by :
McGraw Boldt, Lana

Please require disclosure for all internet and online advertising. After learning that a foreign country/Russia has been able to use propaganda posing as the USA in online political advertising to affect our elections is deeply troubling. Please move ahead with stronger rules and please allow there to be a public hearing regarding this.

Comments provided by :
McLaughlin, Tara

I was in my teens in the 1970s when I learned about the importance of free, fair, and open elections. My mother worked for the San Mateo County Elections and Registrations Division in California, and I worked as extra help during the times leading up to elections. I learned from this experience that the degree of openness and transparency for elections cannot be too great: Elections are the cornerstone of a democracy.

I was impressed more and more over the years that I did this extra-help work by the seriousness with which every employee at the Elections Division approached and performed the work. In those days of election machines, no one person was ever alone with an election machine, even before all of the switches were set for a particular precinct's election.

The bags that contained the elections materials that accompanied each machine to its precinct were put together by groups: There was never even a chance that something that did not belong in the bag could make it in there before the bag was sealed and stacked--in the open--for delivery to its polling place. But that something untoward would be added to a bag, or that a machine would be set deliberately incorrectly was something inconceivable to the entire staff and crew at the office.

No one there ever discussed anything about the election itself--outside of the technical aspects they were hired to see fulfilled--on the premises of the office, not even in the break room. My mother told me that she had no idea what parties her coworkers were registered with. It wasn't something anyone discussed, let alone candidates and issues.

I lead into my comments with this background to remind you of what a different world this is now. That a Secretary of State of Florida would seemingly place partisanship over her duties, as Katherine Harris seemed to do in 2000, would have been inconceivable to my mother and the people with whom she worked.

All of this was well before the Internet's influence would become so great.

And now we have elections for which party is paramount, rather than a good candidate, as well as an Internet that influences millions of people with ease--without their even realizing it.

The Federal Election Commission must catch up with the society, which seems willing to accept anything they're told that coincides with their beliefs. I believe this is due to a decline in critical thinking skills and the exercise of these skills. But no matter the reason someone votes the way they do, the FEC must ensure that the people they serve--ALL of the American people and no single party or ideology--are protected from obfuscation.

The source of all political advertising must be utterly transparent, no matter where the advertising appears. The "source" means those who created the advertising AND those who paid for it.

I never thought that the 1970s, after living through the Watergate hearings; the 1980s, with the deceptions revealed in the Iran-Contra hearings; and even the 1990s, with the revelations of Clinton's deals and a Congress's devolution into a partisanship that has only increased into self-serving lockstep, could seem so innocently fair and impartial.

But here we are. Every bit of transparency that the Federal Election Commission can muster **MUST** be mustered. Apply every regulation for election advertising to the Internet. It must be done for complete transparency.

Comments provided by :
McNair, Roberta

I urge you to assure transparency in online advertising. Online information is becoming increasingly important and influential for Americans, and we deserve to know in real time who is sponsoring advertising. Knowing who is paying is essential to properly evaluating the reliability of advertising, or any information for that matter. Organizations like Facebook and Twitter may claim they will regulate themselves, but we need a government agency to establish and oversee proper regulations that assure transparency. The American people deserve no less. The dangers of hidden sponsors is well illustrated by the Russian dissemination of disinformation during the 2016 election cycle. Lack of guaranteed thorough transparency is a threat to our democracy.

Comments provided by :
Mehl, Carter

Please do not Regulate/censor speech on Internet Not Govt Business
Market Place will determine Speech

Comments provided by :
Melillo, Michael

Please, more light on spending for elections! Only YOU can save The Republic.

Comments provided by :
Menteer, Eileen

Removing free speech from anything is against the law. The internet is no exception.

Comments provided by :
Merrick, Christopher

At the dawn of the internet age there was a cartoon of 2 dogs at a computer. The caption was 'On the internet no one knows you're a dog.' In the 30 years since we've had that secrecy abused many times, with fishing, child trolling, and now propaganda from hostile governments. It is time for absolute and unambiguous transparency in advertising in all media. An educated citizenry must know the sources of their information. This is an issue that can not wait.

Comments provided by :

Michel, Patricia

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

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

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

Comments provided by :
Millar, Riff

Free speech is one of the corner stones of our country. To limit that right would be to remove some of our freedom as Americans. Please do not do this!

Comments provided by :
Miller, Robert

Please protect our rights to free speech.

Comments provided by :
Mizner, Cristie

Political ads, as with mailings, should be identified with the name of the person or organization paying for the ads. Political ads from foreign governments should not be accepted.

My concern is about the ads which did not seem political in nature, but were designed to create division and hate. I do not like censorship, but trolls and robots should not be able to post divisive comments on social media. The social media should develop guidelines to prevent those ads and comments from being displayed, particularly if they are paid for by a foreign government.

Comments provided by :
Moore, Jesse

Please write your comment here.Please protect free speech.

Comments provided by :
Moran, Gregory

Marguerite & George Moran

November 9, 2017

U. S. Federal Elections Commission

Submitted electronically through www.regulations.gov

Re: Internet Communication Disclaimers; Reopening of Comment Period

FEC-2017-0067-0001

We are physicians practicing medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. We strongly support the initiation of a rulemaking process by the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to revise its regulations concerning disclaimers on certain internet communications.

For internet advertising which advocates the election or defeat of a federal political candidate or cause, disseminated/accessed on web sites, through an app, or sent by email, by text message, by Twitter, or by similar mass electronic media, we strongly support inclusion of a disclaimer disclosing the:

- ? Identity of the person, organization or group who paid for the advertisement;
- ? Where applicable, whether the advertisement was authorized by the candidate.

We strongly support requirements for internet advertising which solicits contributions for federal candidates or causes accessed/disseminated on web sites, by apps, by email, by text messages, by Twitter, or by similar mass electronic media, I strongly support inclusion of a disclaimer disclosing the:

- ? Identity of the person, organization or group who paid for the advertisement;
- ? Where applicable, whether the advertisement was authorized by the candidate.

65 % of Americans identified the internet as their leading source of information in 2016. Television and radio ads are required to include disclosures for decades, but its transparency rules are outdated. Now is the time to update FEC regulations to apply political advertising disclosure rules to the internet.

The Trump campaign embraced Facebook as a key advertising channel. Unfortunately, American voters were uninformed about the sponsorship of this advertising.

In a direct attack on the US, Russians placed social media ads on Facebook, Google, Reddit, Instagram, and (even Pok?mon Go) to manipulate American voters.

Twitter has faced the challenge of marking disclosure on ?small items?: election ads will have a uniform look, provide information on the advertiser, the audience they are targeting and the total money they spent on the media platform. Twitter will require that political and election advertisers identify their campaigns as such. Although Congress is considering several bills to require political advertising disclosure, the bill pending in the Senate would only cover ads bought by an entity that spends more than \$10,000 on online ads.

Knowledge of the sponsorship and funding of internet political advertising is essential to American citizens in making informed evaluations of its content and reliability. Providing disclosure of internet advertising is an extension of the role the FEC has historically performed for traditional media. Online media advertising transparency is increasingly essential as Americans turn to the internet as their primary source of information. The FEC, consistent with its mission to provide transparency in elections, must provide consistent implementation of political advertising disclaimers on the internet.

Comments provided by :

Moran, Marguerite & George

Extranational meddling has corrupted the US election process. These actors have circumvented disclosure laws using Internet advertisements. To believe that the current situation is acceptable is to be na?ve, complicit, or opportunistic. A public hearing followed by decisive action is the responsibility of the FEC to defend our system of government. I am ashamed that I even have to bring this forward. We need strong disclaimer rules for Internet communications.

Comments provided by :

Mork, Peter

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

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

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

Comments provided by :
Morningstar, Samuel

I believe that there should be a clear and easy way to trace who's accountable for political ads in *all* media, especially the most powerful modern medium, the Internet. Online political ads on the web and web-based social media platforms should be easily traceable to the organization or person who is paying for them.

Comments provided by :
Morris, Tom

I'm very concerned about the interference in the 2016 elections by the Russian government and its proxies/hackers. The information being uncovered by Congressional hearings of the Russian-backed advertising/bot tweets on social media make it very clear that we need new rules regulating political advertising in these media and strict transparency rules so that users can know where the message comes from and can investigate the aims and interests of the organization pushing that message.

Comments provided by :
Morrison, Lianne

Please amend existing campaign finance rules to require that all online political advertisements have to provide disclaimers showing who paid for the ad.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Morrison, Michael

All online ads should contain information that clearly discloses who is paying for the ad as well as the location and contact information of the entity that is paying for the ad.

Comments provided by :
Mortensen, Barbara

Please protect my right to free speech on the internet.
Thank you

Comments provided by :
Mortensen, Dorothy

Please write your comment here. Please know that I am hoping and praying that you will be careful to protect our free speech online. We do have to be careful that the liberals do not win in their fight to control what is rightfully ours to hold on to. Thank you for your service, and May God give you wisdom and knowledge what to do at all times.

Comments provided by :
Morton, Mary

It is vitally important to me as an American citizen that I be informed as to the source of funding for political advertisements. I am concerned that a lack of transparency is subverting our democracy by making it easier for nefarious actors - who wish to undermine American interests.

Comments provided by :
Moss, Karen

We need a public hearing on rules change to make sure that we know when political ads originate from a foreign source. We need to know how to stop Foreign interference in our elections. FEC rules need to be changed. The hearings need to be public and we need to debate this to get it right.

Comments provided by :
Moukheiber, Lamia

We need a public hearing and review, we need action, we need TRUTH!

Comments provided by :
Murphy, Vicki

Please make all political ads on the internet include information about who is funding the advertisement and where they are located. It is clear that this is an area of growing influence and transparency in the source of those messages is needed for fairness. It allows receivers to be better able to assess the content of the messages. We require this for advertisements on television, and this seems to be a reasonable requirement for electronic mediums as well.

Comments provided by :
Nadler, Marjorie

As a citizen and voter, I believe I deserve to know who funds online political ads, with online disclaimers, in real-time. (Of course the same applies to printed political ads, billboards, television & radio ads, and even leaflets.)

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

I ask the FEC to provide clear, appropriate regulations for social media companies like Facebook and Twitter, regulations that can actually be enforced.

Thank you for hearing my concerns.

Comments provided by :
Nahigian, Kenneth

About a dozen times a day I search the internet to verify information I read in a book or heard, to see what is playing in the movies, to find a recipe or read about the latest inventions and innovations for both academic subjects and commercial products. I am interested in things in general and find the internet a tremendous boon in learning.

I do not believe that search engines have the right to any of my personal information unless I choose to provide it. I have the right to provide, or not, personal information when performing other activities of my daily life. Yet, I cannot choose what I wish internet site providers to know about me. I do not know what they collect, how long they keep the information, who they give it to, or who gave them the right to collect it. Providers say that this data collection helps them direct their advertising. Yet, I have not found that its directing its advertising because of what the algorithms have charted to be of any advantage to me.

When I was a teacher, my students used the internet daily. This use was mandated by the school district. When I directed a state-funded ESL program, students were required to use the internet. Our funding was contingent on its use. To be computer literate to be able to compete in the marketplace. But to be educated and literate is to give up your right to privacy for the commercial benefit of private companies without your permission. This is wrong.

Comments provided by :
Natalo, Arlene

Please create some common sense rules to regulate political advertisements on the internet, including social media. Foreign powers should not be able to manipulate the US public so easily. Social media companies should be accountable for allowing non US citizens to pay to boost propaganda on their networks. I would like to see hearings held on this matter, because if we don't figure out exactly how our elections were interfered with in the past, then we may completely lose control of our democracy in the future.

Comments provided by :
Nelson, Sarah

Paid political ads placed on social media should clearly display the people or groups who purchased them.

Comments provided by :
Neuner, Kelly

Our constitution states we have the right to free speech. What our elected officials are trying to do to eradicate this privilege is ludicrous! Stand your post and represent the people that put you in office!

Comments provided by :
Newman, Opal

Funding should not be an issue in public elections but while it is the very least we should know is the source of that funding. This allows a chance at an informed electorate.

Comments provided by :
Noblin, Ryan

It is imperative that all election related communications, regardless of medium, identify who is responsible for the message being broadcast. The Internet, social media and online advertising needs to be held to the same standards as television, radio and print media.

Comments provided by :
Norton, Melissa

I want to know who is paying for every advertisement I see, whether it is political, issue-oriented, commercial, whatever. The public has a right to know where the money is coming from that funds advertisements, period.

Comments provided by :
Obuchowski, Elsa

As we highlighted in September, the United States of America has fallen off the online disclosure cliff that Sunlight has warned of for years. The lack of transparency for political ad spending created a significant vulnerability in our public accountability laws that foreign entities and unscrupulous, unaccountable special interests are exploiting.

Congressional hearings made it clear to everyone that social media platforms were used by Russians used to influence the 2016 election. The full extent of that interference is still not understood publicly, even now.

The status quo is not tenable. The American public should be able to instantly know who paid for a given political ad, whether it's broadcast on TV or radio, printed in a newspaper, or shared on Internet platforms. Online political ads should have clear, plain language disclaimers that connect to a verified entity. Every company that takes money to run political ads should maintain a publicly available file of those purchases.

This isn't a radical notion: it's how electioneering is handled on other media platforms! While more transparency was rendered to radio, TV and satellite stations by the Federal Communications Commission through the concerted legal action of Sunlight and our allies, "dark ads" have flourished online.

Comments provided by :
Oda , John

It is incredibly important that internet ads say who paid for them. This is especially true due to the ads that were made during the 2016 election.

Comments provided by :
Ohagen, Kate

Protect free speech online.

Comments provided by :
Opat, Claudia

i must insist that you abide the laws put forth in our Constituion #1A rights freedom of speech online. It is not only the law but our rights as Americans.

Thank you .

Comments provided by :

Orozco, Kathleen

PLEASE protect online free speech !

Comments provided by :
Otero, Edward

We need new protections that keep up with the times in which we're living. The potential for harm has grown so great that social media pages and the bogus ads and "tweets" and messaging have had a huge, negative impact on average Americans. There must be a way to increase the transparency of these insidious sources that are seeking to alarm and/or mislead the American people.

Please extend the rules for traditional media (tv, radio and print) to the internet and all the forms of electronic social media that require the same guidelines as earlier forms of media. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Oxenhorn, Douglas

Everyone should know who is paying for ads and content! Especially anything to do with politics! Our election was bought and paid for by a foreign government! Transparency is the only way to help prevent this kind of travesty and criminal activity.

Comments provided by :
Ozdemir, Lynn

Please respect the Constitution, do not regulate online political speech today or in the future.

Comments provided by :
papastrat, pete

Please protect our freedom of speech online!
Thank you!

Comments provided by :
Parvi, Marie

Our democracy relies on voters understanding who is running to represent them, and the positions these prospective candidates take. That is how we, as voters decide who will act in our interests and who will not. But voters right now are being overwhelmed with information, most of it presented on-line, which is of unknown origin and unknown truth. The first step in allowing American voters to distinguish between real and fake information is to make those who present information to voters accountable for the content of their speech, regardless of the media they use. Those who present election-oriented information on-line MUST be required to identify themselves. This will begin to bring the online and social media universe in line with more traditional media in being accountable to the American voter. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Peake-Jones, David

Please...protect our free speech which the Constitution of the United States of America has granted us.

Comments provided by :

Pears, Randi

Freedom of speech is critical. Without it the biased news will feed us their crap. Oh for the days of news. Honest reporting is gone. Open Government is shady at best. Lady Justice has become an absolute shame. The blindfold is off for the elite and those in power. The IRS is totally corrupt. Even our DOJ and our FBI have been brought down in disgrace.

Comments provided by :
Pearson, A.

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

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

Thank you.

Comments provided by :

Perona, Eliah

We need strong rules and regulations regarding who purchases advertising, namely online political advertising/content that relates to elections, candidates and preferences for various issues. It should be clear and obvious to the viewer/target consumer of such advertising who funded the purchase. Mailers and television ads must include a disclaimer regarding payment. The same standards at a minimum should apply to online advertising content.

Comments provided by :
Perret, Geri

Please abide by the Constitution and protect Free Speech. Even Online. All speech must be protected not just what we want to hear.

Comments provided by :
Pilcher, Paul

No one has the right to silence free speech. Whether it's written, spoken or media. The buck stops here.

Comments provided by :
pilcher, Tammy

The right of free speech it a Constitutional right and as such if you want to curtail this right then you cannot do this through a regulation, it has to be through the Constitutional Amendment process. Just because I don't agree with what yoir view is does not mean that I have a right to limit your free speech, so do not step on mine.

Comments provided by :
Pipes, Gordon

Do not allow any agency to attack free speech! .

Comments provided by :
Pittman, Marilyn

REG 2011-02 should be killed as an infringement on on free speech! And while not always good, our voices all the same should be heard.

Comments provided by :
Ponczak, Matt

Hello!

It is vitally important to move ahead with stronger rules on advertising disclaimers on internet political ads. There must ALSO be public hearing!

Thank you,
Jack

Comments provided by :
Powers, Jack

The Constitution of the United States of America is an amazing document giving all of us freedom from oppression and persecution for our beliefs thru freedom of speech. That freedom of speech is under attack. I sincerely ask for the continued adherence to our right to free speech.

Comments provided by :
Prince, Robin

Freedom of speech is a right for all Americans that is protected under our Constitution. Left views are getting spoken about but when conservatives speak out about our truths we get silenced? Looks like there is a double standard here and it needs to be stopped! Freedom of speech on talk radio, tv, and online should be upheld. Thank you

Comments provided by :
Psomas, Caitlin

Protect Free Speech Online!

Comments provided by :
Pyburn, Diane

Please protect our free speech. We don't have too always agree with each other; we should all have the right too voice pour opinions.

Comments provided by :
Rains, Virginia

As a concerned voting citizen, I am asking that you protect our Free Speech online.

Comments provided by :
Ray, Nile

Please make online political ads follow same regulations as television. They need to be equally transparent and clear about who is behind them.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Reeves, Rumi

I ask that you protect our online speech.

Comments provided by :
Resnick, Judy

Protect the first amendment. Don't silence us. America stands for freedom, keep it that way.

Comments provided by :
Rhoades, Catherine

Why do we need anonymity on the internet? Why wouldn't it be completely transparent? If you have something to say, take responsibility for your posts, ads, meme's, etc. If anyone has to hide their identity, there is a reason and it can't be good. This problem has been escalating every year for quite a while. If the FEC is unable/unwilling to control the propaganda from both sides, maybe we should form another committee of cyber geniuses to figure it out. I don't have the answers but they are out there. I wish the individuals in Washington when making these types of decisions would use more common sense.

Comments provided by :
Rice, Jean

Please update your rules to require online political ads to include disclosures of who paid for the ad. Thank you.

Comments provided by :

Rice, Julia

Don't step on our rights to free speech.

This will only come to bite you when we step on you!

Comments provided by :

Ricker, Bill

The lack of transparency for political ad spending created a significant vulnerability in our public accountability laws that foreign entities and unscrupulous, unaccountable special interests are exploiting.

The American public should be able to instantly know who paid for a given political ad, whether it's broadcast on TV or radio, printed in a newspaper, or shared on Internet platforms. Online political ads should have clear, plain language disclaimers that connect to a verified entity. Every company that takes money to run political ads should maintain a publicly available file of those purchases.

Adding disclaimers and disclosures don't mean renouncing business or chilling speech, any more than has been the case for TV or radio stations.

Please reopen a rulemaking to consider revising regulations for online communications that mandate disclosure and disclaimers for paid political advertising and hold a public hearing with the technology companies that serve ads to billions of people on the Internet and extend the definition of electioneering to online communications and require disclaimers and disclosures for paid political advertising on Internet platforms.

Comments provided by :
Ridener, John

Please protect our online free speech. It is important to keep our freedoms and free speech is the most important for us to remain in a free society.

Comments provided by :
Riedel, Scott

Please protect the Constitution. Please protect online free speech.

Comments provided by :
Ritchie, Ryan

Let's make sure that Russia or anyone else for that matter doesn't have a hand in our future elections with targeted ads. The ads should state who paid for them and not just the PAC name but who is part of the PAC and also who they are targeting and what their goal is. Fake news does exist and we should make sure that the really insidious ways the hackers have corrupted social media does not happen again. Television ads should have more disclaimers on them too because there isn't enough information on them either. Political action committees can be formed by anyone and we need transparency in our political ads so we know exactly who is paying for them and why.

Comments provided by :
Robb, Cheryl

Political advertising is public speech. It is important that all political advertisements including all forms of online advertisements disclose the party/parties who are "speaking," especially as there is a risk of foreign parties interfering with our civic discourse.

BUT THIS IS NOT ENOUGH. Also critical is that political advertisements be made public so that citizens can track what candidates are saying to different potential voters. In the age of microtargeting, there is too great a risk that candidates or other entities will give different positions to different voters, with the general public not having the ability to know what candidates are saying. Political advertisers and platforms that accept political advertising must be forced to make public a catalog of all political advertising so public speech that impacts the public debate is made public.

Comments provided by :
Robbins, Richard

I am writing in response to my free speech and asking the FEC to stop trying to regulating or stopping online speech. Please respect the Constitution and my protect my free speech.

Comments provided by :
Roberts, Elizabeth

Please respect our right to free speech on the internet or rest assured you will be voted out of office !

Comments provided by :
Rochon, Stephen

Please Protect our free speech on linewrite your comment here.

Comments provided by :
Rouse, Anthony

All online campaign advertisements should be required to list the individuals or organizations responsible for submitting and paying for the request. There is a requirement for this on television and print advertisements and it should extend to all media.

It is important since polls showed that 65 percent of Americans chose the internet or online as their primary way of receiving information. The American public deserves to know who is funding the advertisements to make informed decisions determining the accuracy and validity of the statements made.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Comments provided by :
Rowland, Donna

Free speech has always been a constitutional right.
Please respect that and do the right thing please.

Comments provided by :
Rumminger, Dana

We have far to many restrictions now and limiting internet freedom just gives the people in office that much more control. Please limit the power you give.

Comments provided by :
Russell, Arv

Please It is congress duty to pass laws. It is not the FECs and it is the Supreme Courts duty to interpret the constitution. It is not the Supreme Courts duty to change laws or the constitution and its duties should not be tied to any view of a political party or their own.

Every member of congress and the justice depart took an oath to uphold the constitution. To do otherwise is an act of Treason and those that participate changing the constitution with out due process or trying to sidestep the Constitution without due process should be tried for treason. The Constitution was written to protect the people not to salience them. Those that do not want to abide by the Constitution go live in China or North Korea.

The internet is one of the best methods that the people have to practice their free speech rights. Anyone trying to limit this rights should be tried for treason. This is not a Conservative or liberal issue nor a political issue it is a Constitutional rights issue only.

The FECs duty is to protect the rights of the Constitution not limit its rights. write your comment here.

Comments provided by :
Salandra, Cesare

Please write your comment here.

Please protect free speech online. Just because someone has a different viewpoint doesn't mean he or she should be silenced. This is America.

Comments provided by :
sampson, corinne

Please protect our right to free speech online.

Comments provided by :
Sanders, LaVonne

We should treat online political ads the same way we treat ads on other mediums (television, print, etc). And, we cannot rely on technology companies to regulate the ads themselves; we need Congress to act to ensure that online political ads should have clear, plain language disclaimers that connect to the ads' funders. I support the Honest Ads Act.

Comments provided by :
Sangiolo, Magdalen

Leave my right of free speech alone. I suffered for 8 years under the Obama tactics. I will not stand for one more day of being told what I can say or do. No Thank to that!!!!

Comments provided by :
Sankbeil, William

Please honor the Constitution and protect Free Speech.

Comments provided by :
Sauder, Richard

Hello,

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

Please require adequate disclosure for online ads.

Thanks

James

Comments provided by :
Schall, James

Please honor the First Amendment's right to free speech and avoid a battle to the Supreme Court,

Political speech should not be hampered by rules made by the FEC that ignore the Constitution's Bill of Rights!

Comments provided by :
Schneider, Harvey

Please write your comment here.protect free speech online!

Comments provided by :
Schnorbus, Mary

Our great country was founded on liberty. People must be free to exchange ideas. Please use your authority to ensure that every person has the opportunity to express themselves especially those who would help. So many express themselves freely with bad ideas that do not help people and they are not censured.

Comments provided by :
Scott, Karen

Do not censor the voices of our citizens. Our constitutional right is to have freedom of speech. Who has the authority to tell another person that they can not speak, or share their opinion ? With out the right to speak, and speak the truth; dictatorship and socialism will gain a stronghold.

Comments provided by :
Scott, Linda

Political Advertisements on social media should follow campaign rules and reporting requirements to protect us from foreign interference and ensure the sovereignty of our elections. Please hold hearings and develop appropriate regulations that are enforceable.

Comments provided by :
Scott, Rose

Don?t let Putin and his allies interfere in American elections again. Require online campaign ads to include disclaimers as to who is paying for them ? just like what is done for television and print advertisements. Americans deserve transparent information about who is paying for communication with a goal of influencing their votes.

Comments provided by :
Seidon, Robin

I am writing to add my voice to encourage the FEC to strengthen requirements/laws/policies that increase transparency and clarity regarding advertisers. We, the American people, deserve to know and have such information readily available, to make informed decisions.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :

Sellers, Donna

I am concerned that internet ads for political elections are not held to the same standard as radio and network television.. Voters need to know who is funding the ad and if the candidates campaign has authorized. This is especially important for future elections since so many questions remain regarding the 2016 election.

Comments provided by :
Serge, Colleen

Our democracy is in danger from foreign governments. All social media must be diligent in keeping others from influencing our elections. Even US Citizens can be working against our people's best interests. In order to help people make informed voting decisions all internet ads must be clearly labeled as to who is paying for them. Please set up a committee to work out the best way to do this. Have public hearings to brainstorm on the what needs to be done. Take action NOW!

Comments provided by :
Serio, Marquita

Please write your comment here. No one has the right to regulate free speech its guaranteed by the constitution of the United States Of America. Hate speech might be bad but if you cant change peoples minds if you cant discuss something you cant change the minds of people. And who is to say what hate speech is. The people in office what happens if the next in office say no thats what you you think hate speech is but this is what we think hate speech is. Only through thoughtful discourse can we the people make the distinction of what hate speech is.

Comments provided by :
Sharp, Grace

Do not regulate online political speech. The government has no business meddling with your rights as citizens.

Comments provided by :
Shaw, Daniel

Please write your comment here.Free speech must be protected online.

Comments provided by :
Shelton, Donna

As a researcher who focuses on internet governance, digital culture and communications policy, I wholeheartedly support regulations requiring more transparency and accountability in online political campaigning and marketing. Given the recent revelations about the role of online disinformation and microtargeting in the 2016 election cycle, strong government oversight will be crucial to preserving democratic elections and a robust public sphere in future elections.

Comments provided by :
Sinnreich, Aram

Leave free speech FREE!

Comments provided by :
Smith, Eric

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed regulation. I want to know who's paying for all the political material I see on the internet. In light of the allegations against various social media sites part in the 2016 election outcome, I want the FEC to hold a full Commission public hearing to air out these issues. Furthermore, I want FEC to move forward with this rulemaking and protect the 2018 elections and all future elections. I appreciate your attention to this very important issue.

Comments provided by :
Smith, R

I think that Google, Facebook, Twitter, et al need to have the same campaign disclosures on advertising as is required for traditional electronic and print advertising.

I say this both as an individual and as a newspaper editor.

Comments provided by :
Snyder, Steve

With the more and more evidence showing that Russia interfered with our election, using Facebook, Twitter, etc., the gross influx of 'dark money' into our elections, and the ill effect of Citizens United, we need to know who is paying for these ads, articles and other internet communication.

As there is virtually no limit or restriction on who can pay for and post internet content, nor what can be said, we should at least know who is trying to sway our opinions.

The internet should be treated like print and broadcasting media.

Comments provided by :
Solomon, Ellen

Please require online political ads to clearly display who paid for them. We have a right to know who is trying to influence our vote.

Comments provided by :
Spears, Jesse

Please follow the constitution and DON'T censor my online communication!

Comments provided by :
Speiser, Sharon

The U.S. Constitution guarantees the right of free speech. That guarantee must apply to all forms of speech, including the internet.

Comments provided by :
Squier, George

I firmly believe that there is a need for more disclosure on media ads - internet, Facebook, Google, etc. when the ads address election information, candidates running for office or ballot measures. Transparency is vital so that the reader knows what individual or group is paying for the ad. I would suggest that the first 5 highest donors be listed in each case.

Comments provided by :
Starr, Alexandra

For the health of democracy, it's vital that the funding sources for political ads be disclosed online, as they are in other media.

Comments provided by :
Stevens, David

Americans have a right to know who is trying to influence our votes and opinions.

That's why it's unsettling to learn how Russian agents used fake accounts to pay for online political ads during the 2016 election -- targeting voters in key swing states to push conspiracy theories and stoke social unrest. It's just the latest example of their attempts to influence and undermine our democracy.

According to Facebook, millions of people saw the Russian-funded ads that it hosted. We should have known more, in real-time, about who was behind those ads. That's why we need better transparency rules to know who is paying for online ads.

Disclosure helps to protect our right to know who's trying to influence our votes.

We need strong and effective transparency rules.

Thank you

Comments provided by :
Stevenson, Julia

You need to protect the 1st Amendment and free speech is an important part of it. Do the right thing and follow the Constitution as it was written.

Comments provided by :
Stockdale, Jack

We need comprehensive review and reform of current advertising practices. Technology and Citizen's United have created a perfect storm whereby facially unpolitical speech can be promoted with the goal of creating political divides. Including a "paid for by" tag line will be insufficient to keep this in check. At a minimum:

- 1) it should be very easy to identify the individuals behind an entity (I.e the Koch brothers ties to The Heritage Foundation).
- 2) all ads that are political in nature or paid for by political entities should be subject to full disclosure, including the ad itself and all metrics (targeted audience, impressions, reactions, etc.). Often, a non-political ad is used to direct traffic to a political website or to gather contact information. This should be traceable and reportable.
- 3) the social media companies have very good tools available for users. They should be required to include tools for compliance with FOIA type requests. Compliance to any proposed rules should not create a financial burden that would dissuade challengers and new-comers to the political process.

It is very clear from recent hearings on this subject that we are just learning the impact new media is having on our social discourse. All proposed rules should be flexible and adaptive to changing technology and user patterns.

Comments provided by :
Stokes, Amy

It's critical that political ads CLEARLY state who paid for them, and who sponsored them (if not the same entity). Most of us were subjected to highly divisive ads in 2016. Many of these were OUTRIGHT LIES. These lies influenced many voters.

Ads should state who paid for them directly on or in the ad. Nothing hidden. The info should be verifiable.

It is truly an attack on our sovereignty as a country when other countries influence and undermine our election process! It must end. Please revise the FEC rules! Fair elections are paramount.

Our country needs you to help. Now.

Comments provided by :
Summers, Donna

The Constitutional right of free speech is important to me and should be protected from demagogues trying to limit discussion and thought. Online communication is part of this process and must be kept free from political oversight. Governments cannot be trusted to maintain fairness or impartiality. Citizens should remain free to discuss ideas without censorship.

Comments provided by :
Swan, Kathleen

Keep free speech on Internet
No brainer!

Comments provided by :
swanson, Carl

Protect free speech online!

Comments provided by :
Swanson, Curt

If the framers of our Constitution were alive today, in addition to being astounded by the technological progress our nation has made, they would advocate for disclosure of who is behind ALL forms of political advertising. This is because the framers believed voters need to make truly informed choices at the ballot box and, in order to do so, need to know whether the information being presented in a particular political advertisement is biased in favor of those who paid for it.

Comments provided by :
Swatos, William

I urge the FEC to embark of a rulemaking process to implement disclaimers on political internet communications.

As an informed voter, information about who placed an ad is an important tool to help me understand the veracity of the information in the ad. The previous rulemaking process in 2011 was derailed as technology companies were concerned that the amount of information to disclose would leave little room for the ad itself. In light of the information about foreign entities political placing ads on social media and search sites to influence recent elections, it's critical the FEC have we rules in place to fully disclose who placed the ad so voters can understand the veracity of the ad.

Tech companies are full of smart people, if you set the rule, they have the skills to successfully implement the disclosure language while still leaving plenty of room for the ad message.

Comments provided by :
Swenson, Melissa

I believe that the public has a right to know who is paying for online ads. I want regulations regarding ad funding to actually be enforced, especially in regards to companies like Facebook and Twitter, which need to be held accountable. I want online disclaimers, and I want them in real time.

Comments provided by :
Swomley, Olivia

We need transparency nothing more nothing less, we deserve to know when watching ads who paid for them and to be able to know what special interests impact the ads.

Comments provided by :
Taylor, Jennifer

We have the right to know who are paying for online ads based on the Russian interference in the 2016 election.

Comments provided by :

Telano, Joseph

[illegible]

(1) internet Communications political ads should show sources (that can be tracked back to an real person or registered group). (2) require platforms such as SnapChat, Twitter, Facebook to disclose ad sales paid in foreign currencies, (3) require platforms to aggressively search for automated ?persons?, and disclose to readers. As Our President tweeted ? DO SOMETHING!

Comments provided by :
Thomas, Susan

FEC should regulate online electioneering in the form of ads. Disclosure of ad buyers identity is essential.

Comments provided by :
Thompson, Nicholas

Please write your comment here.

Comments provided by :
Threlkeld, John

I am writing this comment to urge the FEC to revise its rules to add transparency and accountability to online political ads.

In an increasingly technology driven public sphere, which lives on private platforms like Facebook and Twitter, the FEC must work to shed sunlight on the mechanisms, actors, and ads that target citizens during an election cycle. To let this go unaddressed is akin to letting propaganda and non-American and even non-state actors to freely move through our political system, stirring chaos and setting Americans against each other.

Sunlight is the best disinfectant for this very dirty system.

Comments provided by :
Tomson, Danielle

I am sick & tired of political ads. Voters are being bombarded year-round. All political ads should be marked in big type as to who is paying for the ad. There should be a very narrow time for ads. Also a limit on how many ads and the number of times it can run.

Comments provided by :
Toney, Anne

I feel that any ad displayed on the Internet or TV should be accompanied by the name of the person or organization that sponsored or paid for the ad. Anything short of this, leaves the American public open to sway by countries and persons who would do us harm. If the sponsors of the ads have nothing to hide, then let them show their names.

Comments provided by :
Tschakert, Darrell

When we the people loose our right to free speech, then what do we have. This will become like Germany in WW2. Yes we have people who abuse this freedom we have, but that is not the majority. Please respect our rights. Please write your comment here.

Comments provided by :
Tullis, Linda

If a segment of the United States population is silenced then you will have disrepected the constitution, abolished free speech and changed our great country into a third world country. The underlying cause of such a move can only be to destroy America.

Comments provided by :
Varn, Julie

The left is silencing conservative voices like Ben Shapiro, Betsy DeVos, and Donald Trump Jr. on college campuses.
Please protect online free speech right now!

Comments provided by :
Vaughn, William

Please write your comment here.Please protect online free speech.

Comments provided by :
Vitt, Robert

I urge you to protect the freedom of speech for ANYONE online, regardless of political affiliation.

Comments provided by :
Volpe, Joe

It's extremely unsettling to learn how Russian agents used fake accounts to pay for online political ads during the 2016 election -- targeting voters in key swing states to push conspiracy theories and stoke social unrest. And it's just the latest example of their attempts to influence and undermine our democracy.

According to Facebook, millions of people saw the Russian-funded ads that it hosted. We should have known more, in real-time, about who was behind those ads. That's why we need better transparency rules to know who is paying for online ads. Disclosure helps to protect our right to know who's trying to influence our votes.

Please revise the FEC rules to better account for online political advertising. This is the reality we all face today- the online presence- and hackers- that are our newest "voters". You need to protect Americans from this pervasive presence and it's influence on our American political system.

Comments provided by :

Volz, Candace

I ask that the FEC update its disclosure requirements to ensure that online ads are held to the same level of scrutiny as those in print and on TV. Our democracy flourishes when we have a transparent system for political advertising. This helps mitigate the widespread adoption of falsehoods promoted by special interest groups whose contributors may also include foreign nations hostile to the US. Given the increasing prevalence at which US citizens are utilizing online media as their primary news sources, there is a need to ensure online political ads do not enjoy any loopholes when it comes to funding disclosure requirements.

Comments provided by :
Walcher, Andrew

You must have public hearings and strengthen rules for disclaimers. The 2016 election has proven our vulnerability to foreign meddling. Make it stop!

Comments provided by :
Walker, Cheryl

Please strengthen the rules surrounding political ads. It is essential that we know who is advertising to us and where the money is coming from. Especially when those advertisers are foreign.

Comments provided by :
Wall, Kristi

Please protect free speech.We all need to be able to express ourselves.Without fear of being labeled left or right.And by stopping free speech you are stopping free ideas from flowing.This is the basest of our country.

Comments provided by :
Walling, Paul

A large percentage 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. That's how a democracy thrives. We have a right to know who is paying for online political ads.

The FEC should act immediately to put forward updated regulations that require online campaign ads to include disclaimers letting people know who is funding them, just like television and print ads. We're not a dictatorship -- yet.

Comments provided by :
Warren, Leslie

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. That's how a democracy thrives. This is not yet a dictatorship. We have a right to know who is paying for online political ads.

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

Linda Warren
zip code 93012

Comments provided by :
Warren, Linda

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lynsey Warren

Comments provided by :

Warren, Lynsey

Protect our online free speech. Do not silence free speech.

Comments provided by :
Waters, David

Do not make any laws restricting free speech on line it is unconstitutional to do it. We don't need to make laws that will head us towards a communist government.

Comments provided by :
watts, William

I am elated the Commissioners are revisiting this important issue. It is necessary for new guidelines to be in place with an enforceable mechanism. Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Weinberg, Elise

Free speech should be protected as a first amendment issue online and elsewhere.

Comments provided by :
Welch, Carol

Please protect the 1st amendment and my right to free speech verbally, in writing, or on line.

Comments provided by :
Wicker, Ken

Please protect FREE SPEECH.

Comments provided by :
Wilczynski, Diana

We Americans deserve to know who is paying for ads online, with online disclaimers, and in real time. We need the FEC to develop regulations that can be actually enforced, not to depend on voluntary compliance.

Comments provided by :
Williams, Coralie

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.

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.

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 :
Williams, Elizabeth

Protect Free Speech!

Comments provided by :
Williams, John

I just found out that the election disclosure rules that apply to print and video media don't apply to online media. That is ridiculous, and this should be a non-partisan issue to rectify across all media types. Please do. With the Citizens United decision, we need every way possible to level the playing field and promote transparency in our elections. Please adopt changes so they will be applicable ASAP and save the voters the brutality of uncontrolled, undisclosed internet advertising.

Thank you.

Comments provided by :
Williams, Kathleen

It's my belief that ALL political advertising should pass a test for truthfulness especially on the Internet. There was so much dis-information on Facebook, Twitter et al that swayed people believing it was truthful. I also believe this should be the case for tv advertising also. We should not allow foreign governments to purchase advertising time PERIOD! And perhaps consider shutting down the ads a certain amount of time before the election as they do in some European countries.

Comments provided by :
Willson, Alison

Respect the Constitution! And the right of free speech on the internet!!!

Comments provided by :
WILSON, JEANNA

In our country's politics, specifically: transparency is absolutely necessary to ensure that people are able to elect people who represent and stand for what they believe, and having invisible influence coming from unknown sources hurts our democracy. Allowing a small number of individuals or organizations to peddle influence using advertising & lots of money creates a false sense that certain opinions are common place. When in reality it can come from a small set of powerful organizations or individuals. Knowing where messages are coming from will help people come to better informed decisions with regard to if they want to support some ideal or not; and it would discourage people and organizations with money from putting on one public image while secretly and quietly pushing another agenda.

Comments provided by :
Wilson, Nicholas

Let free speech !!!!!

Comments provided by :
Winfree, Richard

I would like the FEC to move ahead with stronger rules on advertising and disclaimers on internet political ads (& hold a public hearing!).

Comments provided by :
Winstead, Liz

Please respect the Constitution! There is no need or reason to regulate online political speech. This is exactly why the Framers and Founders made sure we have a First Amendment. It applies equally to the "town square" from the days of old to the "town square" of today- the Internet! Truly, the only reason to regulate online speech is to kill online free speech.

Comments provided by :
Withers, Andy

Transparency and accountability in politics are vital to ensure trust in our democratic processes. Social media and related structural changes in how the public accesses and shares information has introduced more shadows instead of sunshine into public discourse. Electioneering is taking place online, but who's behind the communications is opaque, and the people buying the ads aren't always filing with the Federal Elections Commission (FEC).

Please fix this - require more FEC filing and more sunlight, not less, and please help regulate the outsized influence of anonymous Super-PACs.

Comments provided by :
Witzel, Lori

I believe in transparency in political advertising. I would like to know who is sponsoring political advertisements whether it is given to me in print, video, or over the Internet. Please revise your policies for political advertising over the Internet and inform me of who is paying for it.
Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Comments provided by :
Wolter, Susan

On your home page, it clearly states the purpose of the FEC: Protecting the integrity of the campaign finance process.

To that end, social media sites and other likely online sources of ad \$\$, should be regulated to ensure we always know from where those ad \$\$ originate. The current transparency rules should reflect how communication is done in the 21st century. Update those rules, regulate these sites as appropriate to prevent what happened during the 2016 campaign from happening again.

Comments provided by :
Woo, Vickie

Please keep free speech in America, as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, free. Guarantee our right to be free to express our thoughts and viewpoints online.

Thank you

Comments provided by :
Wright, Robin

Regardless of the truth of the Russia controversy, we have the right to know who pays for ads meant to influence our elections.

Comments provided by :
Wurst, James

I implore you to ensure that our elections are not meddled with in future elections. We should have the ability to and transparency to see who is funding advertisements regardless of the medium in order to make more informed decisions on Election Day. Platforms such as Facebook should not be able to skirt the same standards that tv channels must abide by. They have shown time and time again that they think they are above the law and the rules do not apply to them.

Comments provided by :
Young, Dean

What is wrong with you people, are country is different in a right way because we can speak our minds! Even if we don't like what is said! Stop with the control stuff. Leave our free speech alone!

Comments provided by :
Yurbyznes, Nun

I do not support suppression of information, do not believe in banning books or other materials. I DO think that the authors of such material ought to be known to the readers. The online purveyors of Fake News and other misinformation plant seeds of suspicion and discord in Americans and thereby undermine our democracy. If naive or careless readers knew who was disseminating the information that they take as truth, they might well alter their opinions. As it is, the internet is full of unattributed "facts" that muddy the waters of understanding. Children need to be educated in how to find dependably accurate sources from mere opinion on the internet, and so do voters. Please make internet attribution transparent!

Comments provided by :
Zabilski, Carol

All political ads need to be clearly identified as such. In large print. It's too hard to separate fact from fiction, and baseless political hit jobs need to be regulated. A voter needs to reasonably form a fact-based stance on issues and candidates. A well informed citizenry is essential to our future.

Comments provided by :
Zachary, Karen

Please write your comment here

My constitutional right is to allow me to have my freedom of speech whether vocally or in writing. It must never be censored by anybody in any way. I will fight this if it is censored.

Comments provided by :

Zinck, Margaret

Please notify the public on Facebook as to whom is sponsoring the political ads. This would insure transparency, and informed decisions, based on the facts.

Comments provided by :
Zomick, Theresa

I am writing to say that the FEC should regulate internet communications in the same way it regulates print and television advertising.

I support regulations that would require the same level of disclosure and clarity to the public in any communication meant to influence voters' opinions about candidates, policies, or other issues material to elections. Voters should clearly and easily see who is backing any political communication, regardless of the medium.

Times are changing rapidly and citizens are relying upon internet sources far more than in previous election cycles. If the FEC is to remain relevant, it must regulate internet communications.

Comments provided by :

Zuckerman, Adam

Hello,

I hope that you will adopt rules that require on-line political advertisers to disclose their identities. A basic norm of democracy is transparency. When we cannot know who is trying to convince us in the public sphere, we are all the more subject to their manipulation. This is especially dangerous when foreign entities are attempting to influence American elections. I urge you adopt rule that would require social media companies to disclose funder information; we cannot rely on their voluntary activities. Thank you,

Chris Zurn

Comments provided by :

Zurn, Chris

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Friday, October 13, 2017

Comments for FEC disclaimer policies:

{My Attempts at submitting this online didn't work.}

I incorporate by reference my already filed comments on this issue, including as to the 1998-AO-22 Leo Smith matter.

When you asked, once before, for comments on whether the FEC should regulate the internet, you received a then-record 1000 comments, mostly saying "Hands off the Internet!" One of those was mine.

The current broad disclaimer policy followed by the FEC is a First Amendment violation, a willful intrusion into core political speech, and is unethical, for those commissioners and staff who are lawyers.

Disclaimer policies are unconstitutional under *Talley v California* and *McIntyre v Ohio*. This is well established law. There is no qualified immunity for FEC employees who conspire to violate *Talley* and *McIntyre*. [There may be official immunity for some actions but not others.] *Reed v. Town of Gilbert* re-establishes that strict scrutiny is the standard of review.

Below, I have listed a series of cases that mostly have upheld the right to political speech without disclaimers.

A narrow disclaimer policy could withstand heightened scrutiny, if it were limited to corporations as per *Citizens United*, and foreign governments.

Robbin Stewart.
P O Box 29164
Cumberlaand IN 46229.
gtbear at gmail.com

Chronological Table of disclaimer cases

1908 *ex Parte Harrison*, 110 S.W. 709 (Mo 1908)
1960 *Talley v. California*, 362 U.S. 60 (1960),
http://epic.org/free_speech/talley_v_california.html
1961 *United States v. Scott* (D.N.D.) 195 F. Supp. 440 (1961)

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1964 Canon v. Justice Court for Lake Valley, 61 Cal.2d 446, 39 Cal.Rptr. 228, 393 P.2d 428 (1964);
1962 People v. Bongiorno, 205 Cal. App. 2d Supp. 856 (Sup. Ct. 1962)
People v Drake (CA) cite missing
1968 Idaho v. Barney, 448 P.2d 195 (1968),
1969 Zwickler v Koota 389 U.S. 241 (1967), 290 F.Supp. 244, mooted 394 U.S. 103 (1969) sub nom Golden v Zwickler
1973 Opinion of the Justices, 306 A.2d 18 (Maine 1973)
1973 United States v. Insko, 365 F. Supp. 1308 (M.D. Fla. 1973)
1974 Miami Herald v Tornillo, 418 U.S. 241 (1974)
1974 In re Opinion of the Justices, 324 A.2d 211 (Del. 1974)
1974 New York v. Duryea, 351 NYS2d 978 (1974)
1974 Printing Industries of the Gulf Coast v. Hill, 382 F.Supp. 8011 (S.D.Tx 1974), 42 L.Ed.2d 33 dismissed as moot.
<http://openjurist.org/422/us/937/hill-v-printing-industries-of-gulf-coast>
1975 Dennis v. Massachusetts, 329 N.E.2d 706 (Mass. 1975),
<http://masscases.com/cases/sjc/368/368mass92.html>
1976 State of Louisiana v. Fulton, 337 So.2d 866 (La. 1976)
1977 Wooley v. Maynard, 430 U.S. 705 (1977)
1978 State v. North Dakota Educ. Ass'n, 262 N.W.2d 731 (N.D. 1978)
1980 Schuster v. Imperial County Mun. Ct., 167 Cal. Rptr. 447 (Cal. Ct. App. 1980), cert. denied, 450 U.S. 1042 45.
http://ca.findacase.com/research/wfrmDocViewer.aspx/xq/fac.%5CCA%5CCA2%5C1980%5C19800828_0040409.CA.htm/qx
1987 Illinois v. White, 506 NE2d 1284 (Ill. 1987)
http://il.findacase.com/research/wfrmDocViewer.aspx/xq/fac.%5CIL%5CIL2%5Carchp%5C1987%5C19870220_0000193.IL.htm/qx
1987 Wilson v. Stocker, 819 F.2d 943, 950 (10th Cir. 1987);
199x N.Dakota v. N.D. Ed. Assoc., 262 N.W.2d 731
<http://www.ndcourts.com/court/opinions/612.htm>
1995 FEC v. Survival Educ. Fund, Inc., 65 F.3d 285, 298(2d. Cir. 1995)
[upheld disclaimers related to fraud]
1995 Louisiana. v. Moses, 655 So. 2d 779 (La. Ct. App. 1995)
1995 McIntyre v. Ohio, 514 U.S. 334 (1995)
<http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/93-986.ZO.html>
1995 ShrinkMo v. Maupin, 892 F. Supp. 1246 (E.D. Mo. 1995), aff'd, 71 F.3d 1422 (8th Cir. 1995),
<http://www.ca8.uscourts.gov/opndir/95/12/952857P.pdf>
1996 W. Va. for Life, Inc. v. Smith, 960 F. Supp. 1036, 1042 (S.D. W. Va. 1996)

1997 Stewart v Taylor (S.D. Ind. 1997)
 1997 ACLU of Georgia v. Miller, (977 F.Supp. 1228 (N.D.Ga 1997)
<http://www2.bc.edu/~herbeck/cyberlaw.acluvmilller.html>
 1997 ACLU v. Reno, 117 S.Ct. 2329 (1997)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reno_v._American_Civil_Liberties_Union
 1997 ALA v. Pataki, 969 F.Supp 160 (1997)
http://www.loundy.com/CASES/ALA_v_Pataki.html
 1998 Doe v. Mortham, 708 So.2d 929 (Fla.1998)

1998 Washington ex rel Public Disclosure v. 119 Vote No!, 957 P.2d 691 (1998)
 1998 Riley v. Federation of the Blind, 487 U.S. 781 (1998)
<http://laws.findlaw.com/us/487/781.html>
 1999 Buckley v. American Constitutional Law Foundation, 525 U.S. 182 (1999)
 1999 Cyberspace v. Engler, 55 F.Supp.2d 737 (E.D. Mich 1999)
<http://www.cyberspace.org/cyberspace/lawsuit/>
 1999 doublecheck dates Griset v. Fair Political Practices Commission, 69 Cal. App. 4th 818, 82 Cal. Rptr.2d 25 (1999), reversed on other grounds,
 2000 Anonymous v. Delaware, 2000 Del. Ch. Lexis 84 (2000),
 2000 Citizens for Responsible Gov't State PAC v. Davidson, 236 F.3d 1174, 2000 (10th Cir. 2000);
 2000 N.C. Right to Life, Inc. v. Leake, 108 F. Supp. 2d 498, 510 (E.D. N.C. 2000)
 2000 Vt. Right to Life Comm., Inc. v. Sorrell, 221 F.3d 376, 392 (2d Cir. 2000);
 2000x Doe v. 2theMart, 140 F.Supp.2d 1088,
 2001 FEC v. Public Citizen, 268 F.3d 1283 (11th Cir. 2001),
 2001 Melvin v Doe, 2001 Pa. Super. 33044 P.3d 1044 (2002)
 2002 Tattered Cover v Thornton, 44 P.3d 1044 (Co. 2002)
 2002 Free Speech Coalition, Ashcroft v., 535 U.S. 234 (2002)
 2002 Ogden v Marendt 264 F.Supp.2d 785 (S.D. Ind. 2003)
 2003 Doe v. Texas, 2003 Tex. Crim. App. LEXIS 88 (Tex. Crim. App. May 14, 2003).
 2003, 2004 Majors v. Abell, 317 F.3d 719 (7th Cir. 2003), 792 NE2d 18 (Ind. 2003), 361 F.2d 349 (2004),
<http://www.liebertonline.com/doi/abs/10.1089/153312903321578269?cookieSet=1&journalCode=elj>
<http://www.ca7.uscourts.gov/fdocs/docs.fwx?caseno=02-2204&submit=showdkt&yr=02&num=2204A.P>

2004 ACLU v Heller 378 F3d 979 (9th cir. 2004)
<http://openjurist.org/378/f3d/979/american-civil-liberties-union-of-nevada-v-heller>
2004 ACLU v. Ashcroft, _ U.S. _ (2004),
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ACLU_v._Ashcroft_\(2004\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ACLU_v._Ashcroft_(2004)) see Doe v
Gonzales, 546 U.S. 1301 (2005),
2008 The Broward Coalition v. Browning (N.D. Fla. 2008)
2009 Center For Individual Liberty v Ireland 1:08-cv-00190 (W.D.WV
2009)
2009 Michael James Berger, aka Magic Mike v. City of Seattle (9th Cir.
2009)
2012 Hatchett v Barland, (E.D.Wi) , on appeal to 7th Cir.

With the newly discovered and due to the inappropriate and unregulated postings on social media that influenced the 2016 elections, I want to add my input to request for public comment.

FEC must implement rules that identify these posting to determine:
country of origin; organization name, association or ownership of posting; beneficiary of posting; verified posting (truth vs. false and hate content); removal of limitations to posting (character limitations); to identify all postings with any affect on the elections and not be limited to advertisements only.

With the future of our democracy at stake, the FEC must do all it can to root out foreign influence in our elections now and in the future. It must also stay current with all social media future developments.

Comments provided by :
netherland, de

Perhaps the FEC can use parts of the California Disclose Act, which goes into effect on January 1, 2018 and specifies that the "true funders" of political ads appear on the ads themselves. In the case of online ads, a link saying "Who funded this ad?" must be on the ad and take the reader to the sponsor. The law also specifies that "Who funded this ad?" be in a contrasting color and be no smaller than an 8 point font. http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB249

I hope that the FEC will enforce any new rules. Apparently in 2011 the FEC wanted Facebook to follow the usual regulations re political ads, but the company claimed that its ads were too small for the type of disclosure required on TV and print ads. It also argued that the ads should not have to link to a page revealing the sponsors of the ads. <https://www.bna.com/fec-votes-explore-n57982087935/>

The FEC should heed these words from the editors of the Fresno BEE (October 3, 2017) re the 2016 election:

"Not only did fake news probably influence voters, but the proliferation of it was a highly coordinated affair, with Russian operatives buying targeted political ads, and creating bots and fake user accounts to spread discord among the electorate on a number of social media platforms run by California companies. We're looking at you, Facebook and Twitter. These revelations, which have trickled out over the past few weeks, should shake every American to his or her core.... Our democracy is at stake." <http://www.fresnobee.com/opinion/editorials/article176788951.html>

Ruth Afifi

Please protect our elections against foreign interference. We are just beginning to understand Russian interference and the president is not enforcing Russian Sanctions.

Please see Mike Farb, #unhackthevote. His data demonstrates election anomalies and is currently being reviewed by congressional committee.

Please protect our elections. We are counting on patriots to put country before party.

Weidmann, Kathleen

It is vital to our democracy that information be provided that clearly shows who is paying for a political advertisement of any kind.

Any time a party seeks to use a public platform to communicate ideas designed to influence thinking or voting that party must fully and clearly reveal their true identities or the public at large is harmed.

Attempts to obscure the true identities of the parties trying to influence public discourse should be resisted.

Anyone with a genuine belief who wished to speak up for such should have no issue with revealing themselves, the price of amplification of your message must be disclosure of your identity, if you are doing nothing wrong you have nothing to fear.

Staley, Brian

Make it mandatory that every donor is listed by organization name and the amount donated .We do not want are government run by the highest bidder

Wiley, Donald

There is no reason that Facebook, et al cannot disclose who is paying for political ads in the same way that traditional media must. For too long, they have claimed not to be a media company, but it is clear that they are performing the duties of a media company completely absent any regulation that we apply to print and television media, and is essential to prevent tampering with our political process.

Balaschak, Jessica

All advertisements should disclose who has paid for them. This is particularly important now that we know Russia purchased election ads. No platform, internet or otherwise, should be exempt.

Harney, Kelly

I think all regulations should be continuously updated to keep up with advancing technological developments especially when there's evidence of outdated regulations inadvertently allowing for foreign interference with our democratic system.

Kulp, Rosemary

As a concerned citizen, please do everything in your power to keep foreign influence out of our elections. This last year has been very troubling and has me concerned for our future democratic elections. Voting is among our most fundamental American rights and it is under attack right now. Moreover, please do what you can to combat gerrymandering as well.

Gelhar, Alex

No foreign money or political contributions should be allowed at any time in the usa. No foreign company should be able to own more then 9% of any media or entertainment business in this country , no exceptions. Advertising online should always have the name of the buyer of that advertising included in the ads. No money from foreign interests given to the us chamber of commerce should be allowed to be used for political purposes.

Cheslock, Mike

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

Doane, Douglas

The public has a right to know who has invested in the advertisement being pitched to them.

Rhoda Ondov

Stay out of it. Stop interceding into our lives. Control your power hungry paws and step back. Our nation was founded under the premise you need to stop. We do not need the nanny state interceding in our lives. We dont need your protectong us.we dont need your help. We dont need you to do anythig but stop what your doing. Go back and stop and erase your precipis ovsrt actions, and take no more on our behalf.

Welch, Christopher

To Whom It May Concern:

One word... Censorship. Just another way for the Federal government to butt into everyone's personal business. Shameful and very biased. The truth will out you every time. How about looking into unethical PAC's instead of censoring the truth.

Johnson, Jan

As someone interested in politics and an occasional user of the excellent FEC data, I am shocked by the current gaping hole left by internet ads. If I can know to the penny how much a given candidate spent at Staples, how can I not know how much they spent on specific internet ad platforms, and more importantly what the ads contained??

Ahearn, Eve

It's quite ridiculous to think that these devices can handle such notices.

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance is also an impossibility.

Contrast Ratio and Font size compliance would also be impossible.

Size is severely restricted.

You know what needs to be regulated by the FEC?

Celebrity endorsements.

I tweet something a few hundred people may see it.

One tweet from Katy Perry endorsing Hillary Clinton and 105 million people see it. What is the monetary value of that? What would it cost for that ad to be placed on Twitter? Does it violate campaign contribution limits? It does.

Film, Television & Music celebrities are a company unto themselves.

They are their own brand.

Donaldson, Dan