

Having been elected to office eight times (County Commissioner and State Representative) I have always supported funding of my campaigns and contributions to others with reportable, legal contributions. The US Supreme Court has misidentified the results of a 19th century case to declare corporate citizenship (declared illegal in a number of state constitutions) to be constitutional AND to allow corporations and others to make unidentifiable contributions to candidates under the guise of "free speech".

In implementing this gross injustice, both congress and FEC have made it impossible to prevent or identify foreign influence of our elections and the buying and selling of congressional influence by corporations and extremely wealthy individuals and families for obvious and identifiable self-interests.

How can it be legitimately and constitutionally argued that we still have a democracy? High school students I formerly taught in both the United States and Kenya would recognize this as a challenge to a real democracy.

It's time for you to also recognize these challenges to our form of government and pass HB 74.

Darrell Opfer (House member 1993 to 2000)