

**Calendar No. 471**113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION**S. J. RES. 19**

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

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**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

JUNE 18, 2013

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. COONS, Mr. KING, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. HAGAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. WALSH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REID, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. McCASKILL, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. NELSON) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JULY 17, 2014

Reported by Mr. LEAHY, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

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**JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-*  
3 *thirds of each House concurring therein), That the fol-*  
4 *lowing article is proposed as an amendment to the Con-*  
5 *stitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all*  
6 *intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when*  
7 *ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several*  
8 *States:*

9   “ARTICLE—

10           “SECTION 1. To advance the fundamental principle  
11 of political equality for all, and to protect the integrity  
12 of the legislative and electoral processes, Congress shall  
13 have power to regulate the raising and spending of money  
14 and in-kind equivalents with respect to Federal elections,  
15 including through setting limits on—

16                   “(1) the amount of contributions to candidates  
17 for nomination for election to, or for election to,  
18 Federal office; and

19                   “(2) the amount of funds that may be spent by,  
20 in support of, or in opposition to such candidates.

21           “SECTION 2. To advance the fundamental principle  
22 of political equality for all, and to protect the integrity  
23 of the legislative and electoral processes, each State shall  
24 have power to regulate the raising and spending of money

1 and in-kind equivalents with respect to State elections, in-  
 2 cluding through setting limits on—

3           “(1) the amount of contributions to candidates  
 4       for nomination for election to, or for election to,  
 5       State office; and

6           “(2) the amount of funds that may be spent by,  
 7       in support of, or in opposition to such candidates.

8       “SECTION 3. Nothing in this article shall be con-  
 9       strued to grant Congress the power to abridge the freedom  
 10      of the press.

11       “SECTION 4. Congress and the States shall have  
 12      power to implement and enforce this article by appropriate  
 13      legislation.”.

14       *That the following article is proposed as an amend-  
 15      ment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall  
 16      be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitu-  
 17      tion when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the  
 18      several States:*

19   “ARTICLE—

20       “SECTION 1. *To advance democratic self-government  
 21      and political equality, and to protect the integrity of gov-  
 22      ernment and the electoral process, Congress and the States  
 23      may regulate and set reasonable limits on the raising and  
 24      spending of money by candidates and others to influence  
 25      elections.*

1           “SECTION 2. Congress and the States shall have power  
2 to implement and enforce this article by appropriate legis-  
3 lation, and may distinguish between natural persons and  
4 corporations or other artificial entities created by law, in-  
5 cluding by prohibiting such entities from spending money  
6 to influence elections.

7           “SECTION 3. Nothing in this article shall be construed  
8 to grant Congress or the States the power to abridge the  
9 freedom of the press.”.



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