

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. J. RES. 31

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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 24, 2017

Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. ESTY, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HIMES, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KIHUEN, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NOLAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. O’ROURKE, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. WALZ, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. HUFFMAN) submitted the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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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*  
 3 *(two-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 within seven years after the date of its submission*  
 9 *for ratification:*

10                                “ARTICLE —

11        “SECTION 1. To advance democratic self-government  
 12 and political equality, and to protect the integrity of gov-  
 13 ernment and the electoral process, Congress and the  
 14 States may regulate and set reasonable limits on the rais-  
 15 ing and spending of money by candidates and others to  
 16 influence elections.

17        “SECTION 2. Congress and the States shall have  
 18 power to implement and enforce this article by appropriate  
 19 legislation, and may distinguish between natural persons  
 20 and corporations or other artificial entities created by law,  
 21 including by prohibiting such entities from spending  
 22 money to influence elections.

1       “SECTION 3. Nothing in this article shall be con-  
2       strued to grant Congress or the States the power to  
3       abridge the freedom of the press.”.

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