Recognition of Efforts by Democracy 21 President Fred Wertheimer and Democracy 21

Senator John McCain (R-AZ) said that Wertheimer provided for the fight to enact the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 (BCRA) the "corporate memory" and a "constant source of advice and counsel not only on the technical aspects but also as to what's doable."

Former Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI) described Wertheimer's role in the successful BCRA effort as "a tour de force" performance. Sen. McCain and Sen. Feingold sponsored BCRA.

"We would like to express our most sincere thanks for your extraordinary efforts to protect the integrity of the Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Act (BCRA) in court, in the press, in Congress and throughout the regulatory process. There might never have been a law to defend if not for your tireless efforts and unwavering commitment over the years. Your contribution to this struggle has truly been spectacular and we deeply appreciate all of your outstanding work. Fred, you are an extraordinary strategic talent, a trusted advisor and a good friend. We are so grateful for your tremendous dedication to BCRA."

- Rep. Christopher Shays (R-CT) and Rep. Marty Meehan (D-MA), House sponsors of BCRA

House Speaker Pelosi praised Wertheimer for his "exceptional leadership to hold Congress and government to the highest ethical standard," in the successful fight to enact the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007. Speaker Pelosi said, "Everyone who loves our country is deeply in debt to Fred Wertheimer."

"Because of your tireless leadership [on H.R. 1 and S.949] the momentum is on our side. [...] We are grateful for your extraordinary advocacy."

- Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Senate Rules Committee Ranking Member Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)

"None impacted [the House passage of H.R. 1] more than your continued leadership, expertise, and savviness. Without you, this package wouldn't be a reality."

- Tiffany Muller, President, End Citizens United