



September 20, 2022

Dear Senator,

Democracy 21 strongly urges you to vote to invoke cloture and to pass S. 4822, the DISCLOSE Act, critically important legislation that will help protect our democracy by requiring nonprofit organizations spending money in federal elections to disclose their donors. The Act will shine a bright light on the secret money that now corrupts our political system.

As Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), the key sponsor of the legislation, has noted, “The wreckage from the dark-money aftermath of *Citizens United* is staggering.”

Since the Supreme Court’s *Citizens United* ruling in 2010, billionaires, millionaires, and other wealthy interests have used their mega-wealth to distort and undermine our democracy by spending billions of dollars in unlimited and undisclosed funds to exercise undue influence over our elections and government decisions.

The DISCLOSE Act would require 501(c)(4) dark money groups which spend money in federal elections to promptly disclose donors who have given \$10,000 or more during an election cycle. The legislation would also require disclosure of major donors who underwrite advertisements supporting or attacking judicial nominees.

The DISCLOSE Act closes a gaping loophole in the campaign finance disclosure laws. That loophole, in the 2020 election cycle alone, allowed more than \$1 billion in unlimited, secret contributions to be spent to influence federal elections and the decisions of federal officeholders.

Secret money in our elections’ breeds corruption and scandal. The DISCLOSE Act will lift the veil of secrecy.

Democracy 21 strongly urges you to vote to invoke cloture and support enactment of the DISCLOSE Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fred Wertheimer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Fred Wertheimer  
President