

An Urgent Message from LWVCT and Common Cause
August 30, 2017

Connecticut Citizens' Election Program is under attack--again. But a 2-minute phone call from you today can help save this program and support our democracy.

Connecticut is in the midst of another political stalemate and we are now in the second month without a budget. As budget cuts and lapses are exhausted and services to our most vulnerable residents are slashed there are precious few solutions to the dilemma of too little revenue other than raising revenue.

As our elected officials work to end the impasse, a number of potential solutions are on the table. Unfortunately, one option is cutting funding to the Citizens' Election Program, our hard fought and grassroots supported voluntary clean election program. The CEP boasts 76% participation from both Democrats and Republicans in the 2016 election cycle.

Our state endured bid-rigging, influence-peddling and pay-to-play scandals which cost the taxpayers billions of dollars in the bad old days of "Corrupticut". That ended when we adopted this clean election reform in 2006. Any cuts to the CEP would be a devastating blow to our state's progress in becoming a clean, transparent government.

Connecticut legislators have shown us, by their participation rates, that they want a clean, not corrupt Connecticut.

Our role as citizen activists must be to keep this program from harm in budget negotiations. We can't go back to the bad old days of pigs at the trough!

Your voice is critical to protecting the CEP. Please call your Connecticut State Representative and State Senator and ask that they fully protect the Citizens' Election Program!

Find your representatives at <https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp>

Here's an idea of what to say:

Hi, I am asking that (Senator or Representative) please ensure that the Citizens' Election Program is fully funded in the state budget. It's a necessary investment for a transparent government that works for all of Connecticut's citizens. With over 76% of legislators from both parties participating, any cuts to the CEP will be a blow to all citizens and legislators alike.