S. J. RES. 19

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

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]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.
Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States:

"ARTICLE—

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

"(1) the amount of contributions to candidates for nomination for election to, or for election to, Federal office; and

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

"SECTION 2. To advance the fundamental principle of political equality for all, and to protect the integrity of the legislative and electoral processes, each State shall have power to regulate the raising and spending of money
and in-kind equivalents with respect to State elections, in-
cluding through setting limits on—

"(1) the amount of contributions to candidates
for nomination for election to, or for election to,
State office; and

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

"SECTION 3. Nothing in this article shall be con-
strued to grant Congress the power to abridge the freedom
of the press:

"SECTION 4. Congress and the States shall have
power to implement and enforce this article by appropriate
legislation."

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

"ARTICLE—

"SECTION 1. To advance democratic self-government
and political equality, and to protect the integrity of gov-
ernment and the electoral process, Congress and the States
may regulate and set reasonable limits on the raising and
spending of money by candidates and others to influence
elections.
“SECTION 2. Congress and the States shall have power to implement and enforce this article by appropriate legislation, and may distinguish between natural persons and corporations or other artificial entities created by law, including by prohibiting such entities from spending money to influence elections.

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

S. J. RES. 19

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

Calendar No. 471

Reported with an amendment

Jul 17, 2014

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