

3.G Helpful Things to Say when Petitioning

Hi, I'm a volunteer with a **non-partisan** group that's trying to get the big money out of politics, because our politicians are spending 40-70% of their time raising money and they're not doing their jobs. Basically, what we've got now is government for sale to the highest bidder. (show them the petition)

All this petition does is request that the City of _____ put this question on the ballot. You're not voting on the issue now, you're just helping to get it on the ballot.

We have to restore our Constitution back to what our Founders intended, before money became speech and corporations and unions made into people. Corporate attorneys and the Supreme Court have hijacked our Constitution. Once we fix the Constitution, then we can pass some reasonable campaign finance laws, so the billionaires can't buy OUR politicians.

96% of Americans are concerned about the corruption in Congress and want something done about it. This resolution has already passed in over 160 communities around the state with overwhelming YES votes up to 91%. It's passed in over 820 communities across the nation, and 20 states have already called for a Constitutional amendment. Once we have 34 states, Congress will jump out in front of the parade and fix this problem.

Will you sign our petition to let the citizens have a voice for reform?

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Hi, I'm _____. I'm gathering signatures to get a question on the ballot at the next election for the City of _____.

I'm a volunteer with United to Amend, a **non-partisan** group. We have a problem with how our politicians are more and more bought and sold. They are owned by the highest bidder. They represent whoever writes the biggest check. And they do not represent *We the People*.

Much of this problem comes from our courts, which have taken power from U.S. and handed it to big money funders.

We would like to ask everyone in _____ two questions:

First, do you agree that an organization like a corporation or a union is not a person?
Second, do you agree that money is not the same as speech?

When the courts said money is equal to free speech the rich and corporations started spending billions of dollars to support candidates – and they drown out the people's speech which has undermined our freedoms. Right now we have a growing problem with bribery, undue influence, conflicts of interest and our politicians no longer represent us.

Will you sign our petition to let the citizens have a voice for reform?

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Question: Why do we need this amendment?

Answer: In 2010 the Supreme Court said the constitution does not allow government to limit campaign contributions because the Court interprets that corporations, unions and other entities are equal to persons and they have free speech. So now tens of billions are given to candidates – and this makes our politician pawns of the contributors – and they represent them and not us. It will take a constitutional amendment to clarify to the Court that this was never the intent of the founders.

Question: If I sign this, is my name going to end up on the internet?

Answer: That's really unlikely. We certainly will not publish it. And the City does not publish the list. We've done this in many cities across the state. It hasn't been a problem, and it's really unlikely that would happen.

Question: Are you a Democrat or a Republican?

Answer: We're not representing either party. Both parties are content with the corrupt system. We are non-partisan citizens trying to fix the system.

Question: Who is funding you? or How are you funded?"

Answer: We are not funded by any organization. Everyone working for United to Amend is a volunteer and pays for their own costs. Some individuals contribute small amounts on our site to help with printing and material costs.

Question: What kind of campaign funding are you advocating?

Answer: That's something that would be decided after the amendment passes. We could pass legislation for a small donor system or public financing. There's a variety of alternatives. We could even limit the media campaign season to say two months, like many other countries. Wouldn't that be great?!