

From: stevenaand@aol.com
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:50:29 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I **oppose** the resolution under item 44 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finances Ordinance.

The ordinance ensures fair elections. Repealing the ordinance will allow wealthy donors and corporations to have outsize influence on local politics and issues affecting our county.

Please vote against repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.

Thank you,

Adrienne Anderson
Oak Park, CA

From: cantabro@jussempier.org
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [LaVere, Matt](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [Lopez, Vianey](#)
Subject: Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:01:56 AM

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SUBJECT: Agenda item number 44

Dear Clerk of the Board and Supervisors,

My name is Álvaro J. de Regil. I am a resident of (Moorpark), in District (4). I am writing to express my strong opposition to repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

I believe that changing the current per person campaign donation limit of \$750 with a new limit of \$5,500 would open up our elections to the highest bidders, including special corporate interests, and tip the scales toward wealthy interests and away from participation in our democracy by grassroots community members. Since 2003, candidates have successfully run campaigns under the current ordinance preventing special interests and money from swaying our local elections. Therefore, there is no need to change an ordinance that has worked effectively. Moreover, repealing this ordinance will not only allow special interests to sway elections, but also individual donors who have resources that the general public does not have. This would take the choice of who gets elected away from the average person and into the hands of wealthy and big corporations, for the simple reason that \$5,500 to a candidate is completely out of reach for most people. If you approve this change, the idea of democracy is trampled by the influence of the few over the voices of the people.

Respectfully,

Your Name,

Álvaro J. de Regil

From: [a mitchell](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 9:01:40 PM

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Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I am a voter in Ventura County, and I urge you to protect our right to be heard in our elections. Repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance would give wealthy donors and special interests an unfair advantage, drowning out the voices of ordinary citizens like me. I ask you to keep the ordinance in place to prevent the influence of corporate interests and individual donors with greater resources than the general public from swaying the outcomes of our local elections.

Please preserve fair and transparent elections in Ventura County by keeping this important ordinance in place.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Angela Landers

Concerned Citizen

From: [Anne Mainieri](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 2:42:53 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Honorable Clerk

We are completely opposed to item 44 and especially disappointed in Supervisor Gorrell. This Item will greatly eliminate the representative voice of the average resident who cannot in any manner donate the proposed significant sum. This item is completely against the best interest of the average residents of Ventura County....in fact it is not only completely unnecessary and detrimental to the fair representation of every resident, but is the proverbial outrageous slap in the face.

Mrs Charles Mainieri and Mr Charles Mainieri

Sent from my iPad

From: [Bernardo Perez](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [Bernardo Perez](#); [Steven T Auclair](#); [Lisagor Terri](#)
Subject: Public Comment re. Agenda Item 44, BOS meeting of March 14, 2023
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:48:25 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

The purpose of existing Ordinance 4510, supported by Supervisor Kelly Long in one of her early votes on the Board of Supervisors, "is to promote public trust in governmental institutions and the electoral process, and to eliminate the possibility of quid pro corruption or the appearance of quid pro quo corruption in which money is exchanged for official acts."

I request that the Board of Supervisors reject the proposal by Supervisors Parvin and Gorell which would repeal Ordinance 4510 in its entirety.

I have been an active participant in local and county public service and the electoral process since the mid-1970s. From that time, one consistent and prevailing theme is the public's healthy distrust of obscene amounts of campaign contributions by big money and special interests. Ordinance 4510 serves the public interest in wanting and having open, transparent and fair elections.

Supervisors Parvin and Gorell would have us believe that repealing Ordinance 4510 would reduce the need for and future occurrence of the obscene amounts of independent expenditures we saw in recent county election campaigns. Please do not insult the public's intelligence with this highly speculative, implausible and laughable argument.

Even with the existing ordinance, the County Clerk Recorder-Registrar of Voters reported to the County Executive Office, Campaign Finance Staff of two apparent violations of Ordinance 4510 by one of the proponents of repealing the ordinance. To be fair, I am not aware of any outcome of these reports.

In closing, I respectfully ask Supervisor Long to maintain her support for Ordinance 4510 and reject the proposal to repeal the ordinance. I ask a Board majority to join her and reject the proposal to repeal Ordinance 4510 in its entirety. We all value our quality of life here in Ventura County, a special place we call home. It is made special for many reasons, one of which is that Ventura County has worked to maintain the efficacy and integrity of our local electoral process. Help keep our elections open, transparent and fair.

From: [Bette Empol](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 10:53:34 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. As a concerned citizen, I believe that this ordinance has been instrumental in ensuring that special interests and money do not unduly influence our local elections since its inception in 2003. With its emphasis on grassroots campaigning and prioritizing the public's interests and concerns, the ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections. I urge you to keep the ordinance in place to prevent the influence of corporate interests and individual donors with greater resources than the general public from swaying the outcomes of our local elections.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,
Bette Empol
Elected, 2nd Supervisory District
Ventura County Democratic Central Committee
[***bettempol@gmail.com***](mailto:bettempol@gmail.com)
818-269-7022

From: [Bev Dransfeldt](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:56:52 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has been successful in preventing the undue influence of special interests and money in our local elections since 2003.

The repeal of this ordinance will only serve to allow wealthy donors and corporate interests to sway our local politics, jeopardizing the integrity of our democratic process. As a voter and a resident of Ventura County, I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place, or at least revise it with more Board discussion to ensure transparency and fairness in our local elections.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,
Bev Dransfeldt

Bev Dransfeldt | 209.200.2313

From: [Bill Karr](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [Lopez, Vianey](#)
Subject: Comment: Agenda Item 44 First Public hearing
Date: Friday, March 10, 2023 4:11:15 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

10 March 2023

TO: Clerk of the Board
(clerkoftheboard@ventura.org)

RE: Agenda Item 44 First Public Hearing Regarding
Adoption of an Ordinance of the County of Ventura Repealing
the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.
(Supervisor Gorell and Supervisor Parvin)

Existing Ventura County **campaign finance limits** were enacted to help the individual voter and maintain the integrity of our democratic election process. Rescinding current campaign donation limits adversely impacts our democratic process of free and fair elections within our working class communities.

The proposal presented is an attempt to unfairly benefit specific candidates in future elections. It is imperative that special interest money with deep pockets cannot buy elections for their chosen candidates. Support fair and balanced elections and the integrity of our democratic process. Money must not be allowed to be

the deciding factor in our elections. Please reject
Agenda item 44.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
W. T. Karr, Jr.

From: [Bob Kahn](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 9:48:29 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Subject: **Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance**

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,
As a concerned citizen of Ventura County, I am writing to urge you to vote against the resolution under item 44 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has successfully prevented special interests and money from swaying our local elections since 2003, and it incentivizes candidates to prioritize the public's interests and concerns.

The recent trend of corporate interests dumping millions of dollars into campaigns is a serious threat to the integrity of our elections. If this ordinance is repealed, it will only enable these interests and wealthy donors to have an undue influence on our local politics, at the expense of ordinary citizens.

I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place, or at the very least, revise it with more Board discussion to ensure that our candidates and campaigns remain honest, transparent, and fair.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bob Kahn | 818.404.1097 | delpha100@verizon.net
2754 Delpha Ct, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

From: [Bmurphyhere](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: BOS March 14, 2023 Item No. 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 9:37:02 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Please register my objection to any proposed campaign contribution increase! Thank you.

Bob Murphy
1007-C Waltham Road
Simi Valley, CA 93065

From: [Brian Pletcher](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:02:24 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

As a resident of Ventura County, I am writing to urge you to vote against the resolution under item 44 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has successfully prevented special interests and money from swaying our local elections since 2003, and it incentivizes candidates to prioritize the public's interests and concerns.

The recent trend of corporate interests dumping millions of dollars into campaigns is a serious threat to the integrity of our elections. If this ordinance is repealed, it will only enable these interests and wealthy donors to have an undue influence on our local politics, at the expense of ordinary citizens.

I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place, or at the very least, revise it with more Board discussion to ensure that our candidates and campaigns remain honest, transparent, and fair.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Brian Pletcher
Thousand Oaks

From: [Brianna Gutierrez](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [LaVere, Matt](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [Lopez, Vianey](#)
Cc: [Willie Lubka](#); [Amy Reed](#); [Youn, Hyunsook](#)
Subject: Agenda Item Number 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:08:30 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Supervisors,

My name is Brianna Gutierrez. I am a resident of Moorpark, in District 26. I am writing to express my strong opposition to repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

Firstly, it is important to mention that placing a higher donation limit for campaigns may work more in favor for wealthy candidates and it strips away the focus of bettering Ventura County. Raising the limit for campaigning from \$750 to \$5,500 may be unreachable for some candidates because it is difficult to ask donors to give more than they may be comfortable with in order to help candidates reach these higher goals. Lastly, Ventura County is comprised of many different communities. It is important for these communities to witness diversity within our own governing body. Some of the wealthiest members who would like to represent our county are not always representative of our diverse communities. Keeping the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance in place will represent fairness for candidates and results will not be compromised by economic status.

I believe that it is essential to keep Ventura County elections away from how the state of California holds elections and to keep the local control that is currently in place. With this information I politely request that no changes should be made to the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

Respectfully,

Brianna Gutierrez

From: [Bruce Goldenson](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item # 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:47:40 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Ventura County Supervisors,

I want to add my voice to the many concerned citizens that want to keep the election limits at the current level (\$750). Increasing the limit will just add undue influence for big money donors (on either side of the political spectrum...yes I know the board is "non partisan", wink, wink).

There are already too many ways that the election finance system can be gamed to funnel large dollar amounts to particular candidates, or to be used by PACs to forward a candidate's agenda, and thus improve the candidate's prospects in the general election.

So I am urging the board to keep the \$750 limit in place and reject this attempt to disenfranchise the average Ventura County voter's voice.

Sincerely,

Bruce Goldenson
Ventura County Voter.

From: [Carol Gravelle](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Repeal of Campaign Finance Restrictions
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:33:45 AM

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Dear Board of Supervisors,

Please keep the current campaign finance restrictions in place. I am shocked that this repeal is suggested as an improvement to the current high value our county places on all residents' voices. Repeal of the ordinance will allow more money to have more influence as there are obvious workarounds to bypass the proposed guardrails. This is a big deal. The best communities are those in which all residents have a strong, equal voice and are heard - easing restrictions on money in politics dilutes that strength. Please vote No on the proposed ordinance repeal.

Respectfully,
Carol Gravelle

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Carol Johnson](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:21:42 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

As a 48 year citizen of Ventura County, I am very concerned how Agenda Item 44 will completely take the power of our citizens away and give it to the special interests and wealthy individuals. We do NOT need more money in our elections but more public events and debates so our citizens can vote for the candidate that will keep Ventura County the beautiful place that we love. The V.C. County Campaign Finance Ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections.

Please vote against this proposed resolution under item 44!!

Thank you for putting the values of our county and our citizens first.

Sincerely,

Carol Johnson

1002 Rosada Ct. Camarillo 93010

From: [Cathy Trevino](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #44 on Tues March 14 meeting
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 9:27:38 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

It is absolutely unconscionable that supervisors Gorell and Parvin feel this law needs to be eliminated. I am so tired of big money meddling in my county. We see it in every election and we have modified its impact with this law and now the little guy feels he can actually make a difference. If this law is repealed we will once again have big oil, giant corporations, etc, doing just as they please without any recourse by the constituents of this county

I urge a no vote on repealing this campaign contribution limit law and realize the one in place at the state level is not the same and will not work of its the only one in place.

Let's keep Ventura County a place where we don't have to be rich to get our voices heard.

Very sincerely yours,
Cathy Trevino
1574 Seabridge Lane
Oxnard, CA 93035

From: [Chaise Rasheed](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 - Campaign Finance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:30:51 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To All Supervisors,

I am in opposition to the repeal of Ventura County's campaign finance reform ordinance. Money already has far too much influence in politics and raising the cap on individual donations 633% only will make the problem worse. In nearly every Supervisor race in recent memory where an incumbent has not stood for re-election there has been an avalanche of money from individuals with special interests. Increasing the influence of money in politics would only serve to discourage qualified candidates from stepping up to participate in democracy if they have no chance of raising unlimited funds.

Do the math and you will understand how an increase in the cap is not good for democracy. It would take only three dozen wealthy donors donating the maximum to fill a candidate's coffers to nearly \$200,000. Those donors could even be out of state (there were lots of out of state donations in local races last year), so an increase could mean that donors with no local interests could decide our elections. Please be sensible and leave reasonable campaign finance limits in place.

Chaise Rasheed
Thousand Oaks

From: [Chris Reinhart](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 12:26:19 PM

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Clerk of the Board,
We are apposed to changing the limit of campaign contributions from \$750. Please do not raise the Limit!
Thanks
Chris + Suzy Reinhart
Ventura Residents

From: [Christine Elowitt](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 9:32:55 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

I am writing to express my support for retaining the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance and opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal it. It is the job of our elected county supervisors to act in the interests of their constituents - all of their constituents. I don't believe that the people of Ventura County are clamoring to eliminate a set of rules that keeps their collective voices more important than the voices of those who would like to buy influence. The system we have is not broken. It has helped to keep Ventura County a place with a high quality of life for all of its residents. Lets keep it that way and not try to fix what isn't broken.

Christine Elowitt
Thousand Oaks

From: [chuck manley](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Proposal to change political contributions to campaigns
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:09:14 AM

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I strongly oppose the proposal to raise the limits of contributions to county elected officials. Like the infamous Citizen s United Decision from the Supreme court that has adversely affected national politics, this proposal would violate the idea, or goal of " one man one vote" that clearly is the bedrock of any functioning democracy. The wealthy would have an outsized say in policy for county governance as officials scamper to suck up to donors in order to remain competitive in local elections.

Charles Manley
950 Hackamore
Ojai

From: [District1](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: FW: Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:23:40 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Maruja Clensay

District Representative

District 1 | Supervisor Matt LaVere

800 South Victoria Avenue | 4th Floor | #1900

Ventura, CA 93009-0001 (805) 654-2703

Maruja.Clensay@ventura.org

ventura.org/board-of-supervisors/district-1/



From: Colleen <cslovinglife1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:23 AM
To: clerkoftheboard@venturacounty.org
Subject: Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance

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Dear

Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I

am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. As a concerned citizen, I believe that this ordinance has been instrumental in ensuring that special interests

and money do not unduly influence our local elections since its inception in 2003. With its emphasis on grassroots campaigning and prioritizing the public's interests and concerns, the ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local

elections. I urge you to keep the ordinance in place to prevent the influence of corporate interests and individual donors with greater resources than the general

public from swaying the outcomes of our local elections.

Thank

you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Colleen

Scott

Camarillo

From: [Danielle Blu](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: campaign finance ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:34:36 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

I am a Ventura county resident and voter. I am writing this email to oppose the elimination of the county's campaign finance ordinance.

I am opposed to repealing our current law. The current law is needed to continue the \$750 contribution limit and maintain transparency. The current law is needed to decrease any incentives to attempt to influence our Supervisors from moneyed individuals.

It is not accurate that this law is no longer needed based on the California state law. The state law doesn't provide the same transparency. The state law doesn't provide the same safeguards against incentives for influence by money.

Please make sure to keep our election campaigns free from big money influence. Please do NOT remove or decrease the campaign contribution laws for Ventura county.

Thank you,
Danielle Blum
TO resident

--

Thanks,
Danielle
My pronouns are she/her

From: [David Harris](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:12:52 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Ventura County Supervisors,

Allowing larger campaign donations is simply a bad idea for the future of our town; it goes in the exact wrong direction as (I believe) a majority of our citizens want it to go. It invites the voices, investment and influence of those who care less about the destiny of this precious place and more about their investments. It says "Yes" to the likelihood of urban sprawl, too-dense housing and more traffic; and "No" to continued high quality of life here.

A hearty "No!" would be most welcome by the majority of the Board!

Thank you for your consideration.

David Harris
Ventura

From: dawn.dyersheehan.com
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [District1](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [District5](#)
Subject: Opposition to repealing the County's Campaign Finance Ordinance (Agenda item 44).
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:43:43 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
Importance: High

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. As a concerned citizen, I believe that this ordinance has been instrumental in ensuring that special interests and money do not unduly influence our local elections since its inception in 2003. With its emphasis on grassroots campaigning and prioritizing the public's interests and concerns, the ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections. I urge you to keep the ordinance in place to prevent the influence of corporate interests and individual donors with greater resources than the general public from swaying the outcomes of our local elections.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Thanks,

Dawn Dyer, President
Dyer Sheehan Group, Inc.

CA DRE License # 01231389

Ventura, CA 93001

(805) 653-8100 Office

(805) 279-3154 Cell

Dawn@DyerSheehan.com

A California Legislature 2020 Woman of the Year

National Association of Women Business Owners

NAWBO Ventura County Chapter - Public Policy Director

NAWBO CA and NAWBO VC - Woman Business Owner of the Year 2018



2018 California Woman Business Owner Of The Year

Ventura County Housing Trust Fund - Founder and Chair Emeritus

Vision 2020 National Women's Equality Coalition - California Delegate

County of Ventura Continuum of Care - Board Chair

From: [Debbie Diamond](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Campaign Finance Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 2:21:10 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Please send this email to all the supervisors:

I oppose any change to our current Campaign Finance Ordinance. It has been very helpful and fair to have had it all these years, and we shouldn't make any changes. Big money prevents good people from having a fair chance to win elections.

Debbie Diamond,
Ventura, CA

From: ddcooley@aol.com
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda item #44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:57:40 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. As a concerned citizen, I believe that this ordinance has been instrumental in ensuring that special interests and money do not unduly influence our local elections since its inception in 2003. With its emphasis on grassroots campaigning and prioritizing the public's interests and concerns, the ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections. I urge you to keep the ordinance in place to prevent the influence of corporate interests and individual donors with greater resources than the general public from swaying the outcomes of our local elections.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.
Diana Cooley

From: [Diana Dingle](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:45:30 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors:

I am writing to express my strong **opposition** to the resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. As a concerned citizen, I believe that this ordinance has been an essential tool in ensuring that our **local elections remain fair and transparent**. Since its implementation in 2003, the ordinance has incentivized candidates to prioritize the public's interests and concerns over the influence of money and special interests. This has resulted in a democratic process that is open and fair to all.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Diana Dingle - Camarillo

From: [Doris Simmelink](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 11:24:50 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I am a voter in Ventura County, and I am writing to urge you to protect the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. Repealing this ordinance would give special interests and big donors an unfair advantage in our elections, silencing the voices of ordinary citizens.

Please stand up for the people of Ventura County and preserve fair and transparent elections by keeping this important ordinance in place.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Doris Simmelink

From: [Patterson Betsy](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Repeal of Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 1:59:21 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Esteemed Members of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

As a registered voter in Ventura County, I am writing to request that you do not repeal the current Ventura County Campaign Finance law. Restricting contributions to \$750 in local campaigns helps prevent large donors from having undue influence over candidates. Our current local limit is better than the state's limit - we should encourage the state to set lower limits on all campaign donations.

Early large donations from wealthy donors (or corporations) could influence the elected official's vote a year later on issues of importance to the donor. The elected officials should be accountable to all of the voters, not just to wealthy donors.

In addition, reducing transparency and ending the expenditure limits will increase money flowing into campaigns over the voices of the voters.

Please do not vote to repeal our current campaign finance law - we the voters like these limitations on money in politics.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Patterson
Ojai, CA

Sent from Betsy's iPhone

From: [Farion Pearce](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:53:46 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to let you know of my opposition to allowing big money back into our elections. The argument presented by Gorell and Parvin does not hold water. There is a big discrepancy between a cap of \$750 and \$5,500. Do not allow this window of opportunity for large donors to enter our process.

Thank you, Farion Pearce

From: [Gerry Williams](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 3:29:57 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

I'm writing to **STRONGLY OPPOSE** obliterating the County's campaign finance ordinance and all of its protections included with SOAR. With contribution limits rising from a \$750 local limit to the \$5,500 statewide limit, influencers with big money could ruin the openness and serenity Ventura County has been able to maintain due to these limits. I don't want to live in another San Fernando Valley or even Los Angeles et al!!! Please **OPPOSE** item 44!

Gerry Williams
3024 Potter Ave.
Thousand Oaks, CA

(805) 241-8212

From: [Gloria Miele](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 9:39:04 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. The last thing we need is more corporate money influencing our elections.

I believe that this ordinance has been instrumental in ensuring that special interests and money do not unduly influence our local elections since its inception in 2003. With its emphasis on grassroots campaigning and prioritizing the public's interests and concerns, the ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections.

I urge you to keep the ordinance in place to prevent the influence of corporate interests and individual donors with greater resources than the general public from swaying the outcomes of our local elections.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Gloria Miele

Camarillo

--

Not Found

The requested URL was not found on the server. If you entered the URL manually please check your spelling and try again.

From: [Gordon Clint](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda # 44 March 14 -Re: Campaign Contribution Limits
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 9:38:10 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Supervisors,

It is of the utmost importance that you continue to support our existing campaign limits of \$750. Escalating to \$5,500 will encourage corruption of our governmental decision making process. Candidates who now need many small donations to get elected reach out, listen and respond to the concerns of many residents and small businesses. Raising the limit to \$11,000 per couple will create a "Pay to Play" political process drowning the concerns of most of us in a sea of big money from special interests.

Protect the fair democratic system of government we presently have in Ventura County by keeping the maximum campaign donation at \$750.

Sincerely,

Gordon Clint & Barbara Leighton

4102 Greenwood Street, Newbury Park

From: [Indivisible Ventura](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [Lopez, Vianey](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:58:39 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear VC Clerk and Supervisor Lopez,

We request that the Board reject the proposal in **Item 44** to rescind current limits on campaign donations. If you can't reject it outright at your Tuesday meeting, we ask that you postpone voting until a second reading takes place. Many in the public know nothing about this issue. There needs to be more reporting and public comment before this Pandora's box gets approved.

First off, we very much appreciated and agreed with every word of Assemblyman Steve Bennett and Linda Parks' letter to the VC Star (<https://sports.yahoo.com/guest-column-dont-let-supervisors-010020117.html>) Their guest column is currently the ONLY source of information about this issue, as it hasn't been covered by the VC Star's reporters.

Their comment "*Gorell and Parvin's stated rationale for repeal is that the local ordinance is not needed any longer since the state limits now apply to local candidates*" reminded us of the SCOTUS argument in [Shelby county v Holder](#) - that the Southern states no longer needed federal oversight of their election laws. Yeah, no one believed that either.

On a macro-level: we are tired of all the grift caused by the excess of money in our elections.

We are tired of the corruption brought about by limitless dark money of billionaires and foreign governments brought about by Citizens United.

We are tired of fighting to make America a better, safer, and fairer place for all, only to be overwhelmed by relentless mega-million dollar campaigns that overtake all forms of media, smothering all opposition and bending the truth. Some examples:

On a state level: Prop. 22 - the fight to strip gig workers of benefits, cost corporations over \$224 million dollars. Many voters were horrified to find out that they were misled. It was ultimately declared to be unconstitutional. (<https://www.nelp.org/blog/prop-22-unconstitutional/>)

On a county level:

- Oil companies rebelled against your board's own eminently reasonable request that new drilling operations comply with modern standards, an issue that should have been moot if the companies involved were already in compliance. They forced it to the polls. Measures A and B, ordinances that would have upheld your ordinances, were killed by a \$8.2 million campaign by Aera Energy and Exxon Mobil, companies with international shareholders who aren't affected if an Oxnard farm, or drinking water is polluted. Environmental groups were able to raise just over \$1.1 million. Local activist Thomas Rebecchi said it was "'David-and-Goliath' battle, we're not gonna lie about it"

<https://spectrumnews1.com/ca/san-fernando-valley-ventura/news/2022/05/10/big-oil-is-pumping-big-money-into-local-ballot-measures>,
<https://www.vcstar.com/story/news/2022/06/07/voters-evenly-split-over-oil-measures-first-returns/7502299001/>)

- The \$7.1 million difference in funding equals the influence of 9,466 separate donors at \$750 each. Measures A and B lost by about 6,000 votes.
- In 2020, California Resources Corp., one of the state's three major oil and gas production companies, contributed more than \$800,000 to support — and oppose — certain candidates for Ventura County's board of supervisors.” The late Carmen Ramirez was one such candidate that was targeted.
 - \$800,000 equals the influence of 1,066 voters at \$750 each.
<https://www.desertsun.com/story/news/politics/2020/02/19/california-resources-corp-oil-spends-big-ventura-supervisors-election/4766757002/>)

We have some questions...

- A \$750 donation is already a lot of money for most people in Ventura County, where the average wage is \$56,058. At the average hourly wage of \$27, a donation of that size represents almost 28 hours of labor. Allowing that to grow to \$5,500, (203 hours of work, or more than the average \$4,671 made in one month) means that one wealthier person's influence becomes six times greater than what the rest of us can afford. Why can't they increase the fairness and equality of their messaging to grow their voting base, and their donations, by six times instead?

- Since, "kitchen-table math" seems so important to conservatives, why can't their candidates budget to the amount our local law allows? Ventura County government has a budget. If a candidate can't work effectively with their own campaign budgets, why should we trust them with a seat at the governing table?

- If local control is such an awesome thing for conservatives - say, for school boards and such, why, on this one issue, do they want to use a state limit?

- Bennett and Parks' letter stated that Gorrell and Parvin implied that state law and the local county law cannot both apply simultaneously. This isn't true. Can you see that we are tired of being gaslighted?

Ventura County already have good laws and there is no reason to change. Maybe the state should look at our laws here and adjust theirs to match.

Please vote “NO!” on Agenda item 44.

Adriene Coulter
Indivisible Ventura
indivisibleventura@gmail.com

From: [Jackson Piper](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [Lopez, Vianey](#)
Subject: 03/14/2023 Board of Supervisors Meeting - Agenda Item 44 - Public Comment on Repeal of Campaign Finance Reform
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 9:03:08 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Publicly Elected Supervisors of Ventura County,

Some of you may know me from my housing activism throughout our county, which has undoubtedly caused some discomfort among local elected officials, possibly including yourselves. I believe in adjusting regulations to meet the needs of the moment, so long as human safety, public health, and the environment are not compromised in the process. In housing, this translates to loosening overly restrictive regulations based on evidence of a need to increase the supply of housing that our communities produce. Politics is not housing – there is no need for limits on campaign contributions to be loosened as they are not constraining public participation in elections, except perhaps from those who stand to gain from the effects of increased contributions from wealthier supporters tilting the balance of a campaign in their favor.

What has come before you in this item is an attempt to loosen the County's self-imposed campaign contribution limits to match the much more generous limits that now exist under State law. Doing so would undermine the impact of individual contributions of up to \$750 that are currently within reach of a much larger percentage of Ventura County residents, and would instead allow those much higher earning individuals in the County that can afford to contribute \$5,500 per campaign to dominate local politics – quite likely in the pursuit of their own interests and at the expense of the other residents of Ventura County. Don't fall for it.

To those in the business community that have backed this agenda item as a means of gaining more political pull over the direction of the local economy – which I am sure is viewed as important to the ongoing viability of your businesses – I ask you to consider the longer-term implications of this proposal. There is a huge gap between what \$750 and what \$5,500 can accomplish in a campaign, and the political power you could buy with your own \$5,500 may easily be outbid by those with deeper pockets and more determination to influence elections than yourselves. This action will likely get out of your control at some future date and when that genie is out of the bottle you may regret imbalancing the political landscape for your perceived near-term gain. Instead, if you have evidence of local government regulations creating an onerous imposition in your ability to successfully do business in our communities, you should bring this evidence before our community governments and ask them to change the regulations.

Beyond these points to local elected officials and the business community, I must also add that it is not a good look before the public for you to support something that will so clearly take away their own political voice in local elections.

I urge you all to do the right and honorable thing.

Thank you,

Jackson Piper
(Unincorporated) Newbury Park, CA



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From: [Jan Demonsy](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 7:40:59 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. Since its enactment in 2003, this ordinance has been successful in ensuring that our local elections remain free from the undue influence of money and special interests. By incentivizing candidates to run grassroots campaigns that prioritize the public's interests, the ordinance has helped to maintain the integrity of our local elections. Repealing this ordinance would create a scenario where corporate interests and individual donors with more resources than the general public could easily sway the outcomes of our local elections. I urge you to reconsider this proposal and keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our elections remain honest, transparent, and fair.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,
Jan P. Demonsy

From: [Janet Egiziano](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 6:30:03 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,
As a concerned citizen of Ventura County, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has successfully prevented special interests and money from swaying our local elections since 2003, and it incentivizes candidates to prioritize the public's interests and concerns.

The recent trend of corporate interests dumping millions of dollars into campaigns is a serious threat to the integrity of our elections. If this ordinance is repealed, it will only enable these interests and wealthy donors to have an undue influence on our local politics, at the expense of ordinary citizens.

I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our candidates and campaigns remain honest, transparent, and fair.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Janet M. Wall](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Fwd: Campaign Contribution Limits
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 12:41:00 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

From: **Janet M. Wall** <walljanetm@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Mar 12, 2023 at 12:07 PM
Subject: Campaign Contribution Limits

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Please do NOT change Ventura County's sensible campaign contribution limit policies. We do not need the type of influence that allowing much greater contributions would allow. To state that Supervisors will not be swayed by those who have unlimited funds to buy votes is misleading and will change the direction the County move. Please keep big money out of decisions that determine the growth patterns in our County.

Thank you for considering my opinion on this matter.

~Janet Miller Wall
1901 Tamarack St.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91361

From: [Janice Grace](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 4:19:50 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

I am in opposition!!!! Keep Ventura from the influence of big money and corruptness. Jan Grace 3473 Mason Ct. Simi Valley, Ca. 93063

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jeannette Welling](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 8:53:52 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

TO: Clerk of the board

I am opposed to item 44.

The average citizen's voice will be drowned out by big money donors. Connection to those donors rather than grassroots supporters will be the focus of far too many county candidates.

Repealing our current law, removing the \$750 contribution limit, reducing transparency and ending the expenditure limits will significantly increase the amount of money flowing into county supervisors' campaigns. It will give big rollers much more direct influence on Supervisors.

Thanks for your consideration.

From: [James Moynihan](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:20:54 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,
As a concerned citizen of Ventura County, I am writing to urge you to vote against the resolution under item 44 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has successfully prevented special interests and money from swaying our local elections since 2003, and it incentivizes candidates to prioritize the public's interests and concerns.

Money can amplify the voices of self interested but well funded actors. Campaign spending limits are wise and should be retained to work as they have since 2003.

I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our local elections remain honest, transparent, and fair.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Jim Moynihan
Oak Park, CA

From: [John Griffin](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:19:46 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

We write to express our opposition to Item 44 on the March 14, 2023 Agenda that would remove the \$750 contribution limit for county elections. This limit has been in place for nearly two decades and it has served its purpose well by making it less likely that major (often corporate) donors influence our laws.

While you may think that this will benefit your future campaigns, voters see through this self-serving action and will judge you on this vote in the next election. Voters detest big money influence in our democratic processes.

Very truly,

John and Rebecca Griffin
Thousand Oaks, CA

From: groots@earthlink.net
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 3:29:02 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,
I am writing to express my grave concern regarding the resolution under item 44 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has been crucial in preventing special interests and money from unduly influencing our local elections since 2003.

The recent trend of corporate interests dumping millions of dollars into campaigns has already caused enough damage to our democratic process. Repealing this ordinance will only make it worse, by allowing wealthy donors and corporations to manipulate our local politics to their own benefit, instead of serving the needs of the community.

I urge you to vote against the resolution to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance and uphold the values of fairness and transparency in our local elections.

Sincerely,

John Groot
6820 Upland Rd
Camarillo CA 93012
Cell: 805-844-7993



Virus-free www.avg.com

From: jackn.phyls@verizon.net
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 12:04:45 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

No, No, No!
Campaign funding limits serve democracy.
Loose limits serve plutocracy.
John Phillips
Camarillo

Statement in Opposition to Repeal of Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance (Agenda Item No. 44)

Supervisors Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin have placed on the agenda for the Ventura County Supervisors meeting on March 14th a proposal to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance which was passed unanimously on 25 April 2017 by then Supervisors Bennett, Parks, Long, Foy and Zaragoza. A complete repeal will seriously erode confidence in the integrity of County governance and its responsibility to the public of Ventura County.

The ordinance sets limits to campaign contributions in total and type, including prohibitions to activities as funds funneled through intermediaries, laundered contributions, money laundering and restrictions to bundled funds. Disclosures are required for contributions, advertising, payments for spokespersons and procurement of goods and services. Also defined is the Compliance Officer to investigate complaints and the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ethics Commission. Penalties are defined for noncompliance.

The current contribution limit of \$750 would be replaced by the State limit of \$5500 with repeal. The \$5500 limit is for counties that have not set their own limits but Ventura County currently has defined limits. A contribution of \$5500 is the amount that would equal the sum of 7 – 8 donors of \$750. Obviously, a candidate would prioritize the larger contribution instead of spending the effort to attract a larger number of smaller donors. Plutocrats and corporations would be targeted by the campaign and these contributors would gain influence over County Government as a result. The needs of the public exclusive of the well-heeled minority would be neglected or ignored.

Undoubtedly the State of California has standards and regulations concerning campaigns but anyone who has dealt with State agencies is aware of responsiveness and cumbersome processes involved.

The Ventura County Supervisors should keep the current ordinance in place. We would like to be known as a bastion for democratic republicanism not for corruption and cronyism.

Jon Huycke
Oxnard
03/13/2023

From: [Garcia, George](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:26:21 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Ventura County Board of Supervisors ,

Please do not repeal the current campaign contribution limits. I have lived in east county since November of 1975 and am tired but used to hear residents of this county negatively compare this county to the San Fernando Valley and then try to imitate the politics of the folks over the hill. This is allegedly a relatively small populated county with government that is close to and responsive to residents. Elections are one of the growth areas in this country's economy with the unacceptable consequence of creating a pay-to-play scenario. We hear a lot of talk about democracy and the repeal of the current contribution limits is a big step in the wrong direction. Please uphold citizen participation no matter how attractive the thought of more financial resources may be to you servants of the people.

Jorge Garcia
2219 Graceland Street
Simi Valley CA 93065

Sent from my iPad

From: judy521@aol.com
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:32:03 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

As a concerned citizen of Ventura County, I am writing to urge you to vote against the resolution under item 44 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has successfully prevented special interests and money from swaying our local elections since 2003, and it incentivizes candidates to prioritize the public's interests and concerns.

The recent trend of corporate interests dumping millions of dollars into campaigns is a serious threat to the integrity of our elections. If this ordinance is repealed, it will only enable these interests and wealthy donors to have an undue influence on our local politics, at the expense of ordinary citizens.

I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place, or at the very least, revise it with more Board discussion to ensure that our candidates and campaigns remain honest, transparent, and fair.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Judith Rosenbaum
Camarillo

From: [K Rodriguez](#)
To: [Lopez, Vianey](#); [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44
Date: Friday, March 10, 2023 6:57:47 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

It is shocking how quickly this board is turning for the worst, but it's not too late to stir into the right direction. We must remember and honor the spirit of Carmen Ramirez. We must remember that all citizens within all economic classes living in Ventura Co are crucial. We must decline

to rescind the current limit on campaign donations. Democracy must be key to a fair run election not money. We must take a stand against the harm of oil and special interests and do what's RIGHT to guarantee the well being of all citizens. The harm you allow will come back to you. It's time to carry on with Carmen Ramirez's spirit and LOVE not harm our county.

REJECT AGENDA ITEM 44

KC Rodriguez
Executive Board Member, CA Demorcratic Party (Region 38)
Vice Chair DPV

From: [Karen Peters](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. -VOTE AGAINST
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 4:28:34 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

As a voter, I strongly believe that our local politics should not be dictated by the whims of wealthy donors and corporate interests. We need to keep the current ordinance in place, or at least revise it with more Board discussion, to ensure that our candidates prioritize the needs of their constituents, not the interests of a select few.

I urge you to **vote against** the resolution to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance and uphold the values of a fair, transparent, and democratic political system.

Karen Peters
1680 Glider Ct
Newbury Park 91320

818-735-0987
kempeters@gmail.com

From: [District1](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: FW: do not change donation limitations
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:16:16 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

I believe the below is for Item No. 44

Maruja Clensay

District Representative

District 1 | Supervisor Matt LaVere

800 South Victoria Avenue | 4th Floor | #1900

Ventura, CA 93009-0001 (805) 654-2703

Maruja.Clensay@ventura.org

ventura.org/board-of-supervisors/district-1/



From: ksavitt@aol.com <ksavitt@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:01 AM
To: District1 <District1@ventura.org>; Long, Kelly <Kelly.Long@ventura.org>; Supervisor Gorell <SupervisorGorell@ventura.org>; Supervisor Parvin <Supervisor.Parvin@ventura.org>; District5 <District5@ventura.org>
Subject: do not change donation limitations

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

having reasonable local donation contribution guidelines for the county gives a voice to voters that are not looking for favors from the board of supervisors. saying it is not a needed guideline leaves me questioning the motives of those who believe the elimination would be positive. IT IS NOT. we have enough avenues to request the board act on constituent requests. this would just allow those with money to garner favor by providing supervisors with substantial donations. i find this recommendation egregious and will further narrow the voice of the voters. how about running on the favorable things you have done for the county and not getting a leg up because you can run more ads. as we have seen the oil companies do, they alter and eliminate facts to manipulate the public. i am assuming Gorell and Pavin and others supporting this must have a similar idea to maintain their seats.
sincerely, karen savitt, city of ventura resident.

From: [Karen Sher](#)
To: [Matt LaVere](#); [Vianey Lopez](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#)
Cc: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: 3/14/2023 board meeting Agenda Item 44
Date: Friday, March 10, 2023 5:29:19 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear VC Board of Supervisors,

Re: Agenda Item 44

We all know money can swing elections. This is why many support campaign donation limits. To rescind current limits is to turn our backs on the democratic process of free and fair elections where money is not allowed to be the deciding factor.

This proposal from Gorell and Parvin is a bold-faced attempt to benefit Supervisor Long's next election where she will meet stiff resistance throughout her district, especially in northeast Oxnard. Remember, Long voted to expand drilling at a site adjacent to Lemonwood, a neighborhood already suffering from the toxic impacts of oil extraction. We do not want oil and other special interests to have an unlimited ability to buy elections for their chosen candidates.

Please reject Agenda Item 44. This proposal is extremely anti-democratic and anti-progressive. Support fair and balanced elections where special interest money is not allowed to buy elections.

Thank you,
Karen Sher
Camarillo

From: [Kay Wolverton Ito](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:37:09 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

As a concerned citizen, I am writing to urge you to protect fair elections and reporting by not repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance plays a crucial role in maintaining transparency and accountability in our elections.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,
Katherine (Kay) Wolverton Ito

From: [Kay Armstrong](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Campaign Finance Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 9:02:33 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

I have much concern over the purposed raising of campaign financing amounts by Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin.

Money is a problem. Why should people with more wealth trump people of smaller means? Whether the State of Ca. has higher limits is not relevant. Our county has had limits in place and it has worked well.

This gives candidates with richer connections unfair advantage and does not bode well for a truly representative democracy.

I strongly feel it should be left at \$750.00!

Kay Armstrong
Oxnard, Ca. 93035

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kellie Elena](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [LaVere, Matt](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [Lopez, Vianey](#)
Subject: Agenda item number 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 1:14:00 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Supervisors,

My name is Kellie McManamon and I am a resident of Simi Valley, CA. I am writing to express my strong opposition to repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. Elected office should be achievable for all and be truly representable of its community. I am afraid that increasing the per person campaign donation limit will skew elected office in favor of those who have the financial means to contribute the full increased amount. In my opinion, wealthier individuals should not dominate the political sphere merely because they have the money to do so. Instead, constituents should have a fair shot in contributing what they can to candidates they feel represent them and not have to compete with well-funded entities. As a resident of Ventura County with several family members and friends in the area, I can assure you that \$5,500 is far out of reach for many average Ventura County residents to contribute. In fact, the \$5,500 figure was around the same amount that my family had to pay when my father was hospitalized from covid. It put a severe strain on my elderly parents who had to switch around finances just to pay for my father's treatment. I share this story because it is telling of the average citizen in Ventura county. We don't have that much money set aside for medical emergencies, let alone to donate to an election. This gives an unfair advantage to others where that money is not a barrier. Please keep elections true to the people that it represents.

Thank you,

Kellie McManamon

From: [Kim Charnofsky](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Campaign Finance Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 12:12:36 AM

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Esteemed County Supervisors,

My husband and I are opposed to Supervisors Gorell and Parvin's proposal to eliminate Ventura County's current campaign finance ordinance and all of its protections.

When we moved to Ventura in 1996, we thought the County had good values that supported the middle class. Over the past 27 years, it has felt like the County has become more interested in the values of people who have the most money. We would like to reset those values, so those with money don't have undue influence in elections, to make it fair for all of us.

We urge you to defeat this proposal, which is scheduled for a vote on Tuesday, March 14, 2023.

Sincerely,
Kim Charnofsky
Ventura, CA

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Kristen Kessler](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Comment on agenda item #44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 2:50:26 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Supervisors,

Please keep elections fair and transparent in Ventura County by keeping the current \$750.00 contribution limit in place. Anyone who wants to contribute \$5,500 to local candidate is clearly trying to buy a vote. There is no sensible reason why the law should be changed to match the state limit. Local elections should be determined by the voice of the people, not by special interests.

Thank you,

Kristen Kessler
East Ventura

From: [Limus Anusauskas](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:18:37 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I vehemently oppose the proposal to remove the \$750 contribution limit. I have lived in Ventura County for over 23 years and I enjoyed the ability of regular people like me to make a big influence in local politics. Now with the contribution limit removed big money again will have an oversized influence.

Laimonas Anusauskas
Thousand Oaks

From: [Lana Lundin](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:58:28 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors:

I urge you to vote against the resolution to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. As Ventura County Board of Supervisors, part of your responsibility to residents of Ventura County is to uphold the values of a fair, transparent, and democratic political system. This of course includes elections.

The proposed resolution under item 44, repeals the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. Repealing this ordinance opens the door for wealthy donors and corporate interests to influence the outcomes of our elections. I don't believe this prioritizes the interest of people living and working in Ventura County.

Ventura County Board of Supervisors must ensure our elections are free from undue influence and are fair and transparent.

Thank you for serving our community,

Lana Lundin
Camarillo, CA

From: [Laura Thomas](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 1:58:00 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

Please do not vote to overturn existing law limiting campaign contributions in county elections. Ventura County is a special place in many ways, and among those is the fact that grassroots campaigns can and have succeeded here. That is the heritage of which we are proud and which we should maintain.

Repealing the law will mean that the average citizen, the backbone of our county, will have his or her voice drowned out by those with more money. Local candidates will be more inclined to answer to the big pocketbook than to their grassroots supporters.

Currently 25 counties in California are effectively applying both local and state controls to campaign financing. There is no reason our county can't do the same. Why change what has been working for Ventura County?

Please don't allow Ventura County to fall victim to big money influence.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Laura Thomas

22 year resident of Ventura County

From: [Leanna Brand](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [District1](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [District5](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 I OPPOSE the repeal of Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:24:34 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk and Supervisors,

I am strongly opposed to any repeal or change to the Ventura County Finance Ordinance. The ordinance has been a terrific way to assure that ALL CITIZENS have the ability to influence elections and support candidates. When finance limits are raised to the rates that will result from the repeal of our County ordinance it looks like you are wanting to allow businesses and large dollar donors to be able to buy influence that would be prohibitive for the common citizen. Local elections should not be allowed to be unduly influenced by the rich.

We have a fair playing field right now. Shame on Gorell and Parvin for wanting to give big oil, developers and the rich a way to BUY THEM.

Stop it. People are watching. Ventura County voters don't want this.

I will continue to speak out and call you out for this.

Listen and keep what the voters have asked.

Thank you,

Leanna Brand

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Leslie Purcell](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Re: Item 44 Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda - March 14, 2023,
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:14:33 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Item 44 Comment:

I wish to strenuously urge the Board of Supervisors not to repeal the current law for the \$750 campaign contribution limit, which helps to protect Ventura County citizens from the undue influence of large contributions, potentially from large corporate interests or to benefit certain personal interests.

We need more transparency and accountability in regard to the influence of big money in our elections, not less. Conceivably, campaign limits could be raised somewhat, perhaps to \$900, but should not be done away with. Such an action would be detrimental to the larger Ventura County community.

Thank you
Leslie Purcell

On Thu, Mar 9, 2023, 8:10 PM COB <clerkoftheboard@ventura.org> wrote:

Ventura County Masthead



Good afternoon,

Thank you for subscribing to the automatic service to receive the Board of Supervisors agendas.

The Agenda and Materials for the March 14, 2023 Meeting have been posted to our website.

Visit www.ventura.org/bosagenda to view the agendas and materials or [Click Here](#) to go directly to the posted agenda.

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From: [Linda Locke](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Please Keep Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance Unchanged - Agenda Item #44
Date: Saturday, March 11, 2023 6:47:28 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Good evening,

I am writing to protest the changes to Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance that are being proposed by Supervisors Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin at the next Ventura County Supervisors meeting on March 14, 2023 under Agenda Item #44.

I am against the repeal of Ventura County's current campaign finance ordinance and all of its protections. I find it very disturbing that they want to change the ordinance from the current \$750 local limit to the \$5,500 statewide limit.

This is unfair to the citizens of Ventura County and will allow for big oil and other business interests to try to influence our elections. Our supervisors should vote this down.

I am a registered voter in District 1 - Supervisor Laverne.

Linda Locke
Oxnard, CA

From: [Lisa Davis](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 11:34:44 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

I am opposed to the lifting of the \$750 campaign contribution limit. It provides an unfair advantage and influence to those who are in charge of making decisions for the rest of us! We need those decisions to be honest and equitable, and one that reflects all the citizens of Ventura County.

It is most unfortunate that people can be swayed to make decisions based on money, but we all know it is a reality.

Thank you for this opportunity to be heard.

Lisa Davis
32 year citizen of Ventura, CA

From: [Lisa Evans Powell](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Campaign Finance - Item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:58:01 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am deeply concerned about the resolution under item 44 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has been in place since 2003 and has been effective in preventing special interests and money from unduly influencing our local elections. This ordinance helps to ensure that candidates for elected office prioritize the concerns and interests of the public rather than the interests of a select few.

As a voter and as a longtime Ventura County resident, I strongly believe that our local politics should not be dictated by the influence of money and special interests.

I urge you to vote against the resolution to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in order to uphold the values of a fair, transparent, and democratic political system.

Truly Yours,
Lisa Powell
Thousand Oaks

From: [Lisagor Terri](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: 1st Public Hearing Re: Repealing the VC Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance (My opposition)
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 11:20:36 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

March 12, 2023

To: Clerk, VC Board and Board of Supervisors
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance

From: Terri Lisagor, EdD/RDN (retired)
477 Calle Higuera
Camarillo, California 93010

Re: March 14, 2023 Agenda Item 44

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors:

I am writing to express my **strong opposition** to the **resolution under item 44**, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. As a concerned citizen, I strongly believe that this ordinance has been a critical safeguard against the undue influence of money and special interests in our local elections. Since its implementation in 2003, the ordinance has ensured that candidates prioritize the concerns and interests of the public in their campaigns, resulting in transparent and fair elections. However, if this ordinance is repealed, it will pave the way for corporate interests and wealthy donors to exert their influence over our local elections, thereby undermining the democratic process. Therefore, I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our local elections remain honest, transparent, and fair.

I have been an active participant in the election process since first qualifying to vote; it is an honor to use my voice.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting. Please notify me when you receive this letter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Terri Lisagor, EdD, Professor/RDN (retired)
805 377-3021; terrilisagor@gmail.com

From: [Lynne Boyle](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:32:10 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

This Ordinance has been instrumental in ensuring that special interests and money do not unduly influence our local elections since its inception in 2003. Its emphasis on grassroots campaigning and smaller donations involves more citizens. Allowing larger donations will affect having fewer involved citizens and transparency of agendas.

I urge you to keep the ordinance in place to prevent the influence of corporate interests and individual donors with greater resources than the general public from swaying the outcomes of our local elections.

Thank you for your attention.

Lynne Boyle
Oxnard Shores, 93035

From: [Margaret Koster](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [Lopez, Vianey](#)
Subject: Item 44, March 14, 2023
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:36:56 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Supervisors,

I am strongly opposed to changing the campaign contribution limit for local elections. As a smallish county, we need to be vigilant to protect the rights of all our citizens to participate on a level playing field. There is nothing wrong with being better than the rest of California! Vote no on Item 44!

Margaret Koster, Ventura

From: [M Elena Ramirez](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:26:13 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am strongly opposed to Resolution under item 44, Repealing Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance.

Repealing campaign finance reform tells us that electeds who choose to vote for its repeal are ready to turn away from community commitment. Your vote to repeal is as good as an old fashioned ad shingle declaring: FOR SALE!

Your loyalties will lay with your campaign financiers possessing the capital to acquire your loyalty and obedience to their demands. You will be owned and we will know it.

Please do not vote to bring this dirty, corrupting influence into our county government.

Sincerely,
María Elena Ramirez
Ventura, CA

From: [Marie Lakin](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [LaVere, Matt](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #44 Campaign Finance
Date: Friday, March 10, 2023 4:03:50 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Supervisors

In an era where citizens are crying out for campaign finance reforms at every level, I am absolutely incredulous that you would seek to torpedo Ventura County's existing expenditure limits.

Exponentially upping the contribution limits will only serve deep-pocketed individuals who have a particular interest in the outcome of board votes. It will unfairly hinder the ability of less connected candidates to raise money and will in no way deter PAC spending. They will in fact just double up.

Relying on statewide legislation like SB 1439 as a panacea is risky. The legislation is currently being challenged in court by a law firm with deeply entrenched partisan interests.

If you pass this, it will be readily apparent to your constituents that you do not care about fairness and listening to the voices of the less well-heeled. For more than 20 years, these reforms have served Ventura County well. Candidates have had no trouble mounting adequate campaigns under these rules. I am doubly aware of this having worked on one very recently.

Please do the right thing for the people and not your own re-election interests.

--

Marie Lakin
9981 Basswood Court
Ventura, CA 93004

From: [Marion Bottorff](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 2:37:00 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Please do not increase the contribution limit for county supervisors! I strongly support keeping the current \$750 limit on County Supervisor contributions. The limit has served us well in keeping special interest money from undue influence in board decisions.

Ron Bottorff
Newbury Park, CA

From: [Marisa Latham French](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:53:40 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has been a cornerstone of fair and transparent local elections in our county since its inception in 2003. The ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections by ensuring that candidates prioritize grassroots campaigns that prioritize the public's interests over the influence of money and special interests. However, if this ordinance is repealed, it will create a scenario where wealthy donors and corporate interests can sway the outcomes of our elections, undermining the very foundation of our democracy.

I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our local elections remain free from undue influence and are fair and transparent.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Marisa Latham French
marisa_latham@yahoo.com
marisalatham@gmail.com
(310) 310-0409

From: [Mark Herzer](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 1:37:32 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

I support continuing the \$750 limit and keeping our elections funded by broader support than just a few big donors.

Mark Herzer
Newbury Park

From: [Marsha Polacek](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:25:40 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. As a concerned citizen, I believe that this ordinance has been instrumental in ensuring that special interests and money do not unduly influence our local elections since its inception in 2003. With its emphasis on grassroots campaigning and prioritizing the public's interests and concerns, the ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections. I urge you to keep the ordinance in place to prevent the influence of corporate interests and individual donors with greater resources than the general public from swaying the outcomes of our local elections.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,
Marsha Polacek
Oxnard, CA 93035

From: [Mary Adrienne Krause](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [Mary Adrienne Krause](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 1:58:50 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Re: Overturning campaign finance ordinance and protections for Ventura County

We would ask that Ventura County Board of Supervisors vote NO on the Gorrell and Parvin bill to do away with the current campaign finance ordinance. Voting NO gives all of the citizens of Ventura County a voice in its governing. We do not want to be ruled by big donors with vested interests, who can buy votes with their thousands of dollars of campaign contributions. Again, we emphasize that we are opposed to the Gorrell and Parvin change to the current campaign finance ordinance.

Sincerely,
Robert E. and Mary Adrienne Krause
1023 Via Ondulando
Ventura, CA 93003

From: [Mary Ann Krause](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed Repeal of Campaign Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 3:38:36 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Chair La Vere and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

Two new supervisors were elected in November of 2022. As a former deputy to a County supervisor, I know that new supervisors invariably use their first 12 to 18 months to tackle the really big issues in their districts, things like the lack of affordable housing, overburdened roadways, access to mental health services, the protection of agricultural and open space lands, etc. Apparently, the biggest issue in Districts 2 and 4 is the average Joe having too much influence in the election of supervisors, and corporations and wealthy individuals not having enough.

With all the true hardships that people in their districts suffer, it seems unconscionable that this is how these supervisors spend their time AND the Board's time, time paid for largely with the tax dollars of average Joes. The average Joe cannot even afford to take time off work to come here and complain about this, but I speak on his behalf. The proposal to repeal the Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance is nothing more than a way to wrest control of the County of Ventura from all the average Joes and put it in the hands of corporations that care only about profit, not people. If this passes, I am fairly certain the initiative process will be used to put an ordinance in place, which will then be almost impossible to amend. Better that the Board use some common sense now and either leave the ordinance alone or propose only a modest increase in expenditure limits to reflect increasing costs. Thank you for your time and attention.

Mary Ann Krause AICP
Former Deputy to Supervisor Kathy Long
Former Mayor of Santa Paula

From: [Melinda Hines](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 2:34:36 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I strongly object to the proposed repeal of the Finance Reform Ordinance, Item 44 on the March 14, 2023 supervisors meeting.

Big money interest should not dominate elections. The thought of \$5500 from one donor (\$10,000 for husband and wife) is beyond my comprehension. And it only opens the door for “payback” favors.

The reasoning stated in Gorell and Parvin’s letter to the board of supervisors dated March 14 is a bunch of gobbledygook.

Please vote no on continuing this item for further discussion.

Sincerely,
Melinda Hines
135 Robertson Way
Newbury Park, CA 91320

From: [Meredith Goodman](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Campaign finance proposal
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 7:24:57 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To whom this may concern:

I am strongly opposed to the proposal put forward by Supervisors Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin to eliminate Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance and to raise the campaign contribution limit from \$750 to \$5,500 per individual. (Which would mean a couple could contribute \$11,000 to a local campaign.) This is well out of reach of grassroots donors. I believe they are trying to tip the political scales in favor of wealthy donors, rather than ordinary working individuals. The implications for the future of our county could be deep and far-reaching.

Please keep Ventura County a place where elections can't be bought by the rich and powerful. Thank you.

*Meredith Goodman
Oxnard*

From: [Merry Gray](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:44:49 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my **strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44**, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has been a cornerstone of fair and transparent local elections in our county since its inception in 2003. By ensuring that candidates prioritize grassroots campaigns that prioritize the public's interests over the influence of money and special interests, the ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections.

However, if this ordinance is repealed, it will create a scenario where wealthy donors and corporate interests can sway the outcomes of our elections, undermining the very foundation of our democracy.

Therefore, I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our local elections remain free from undue influence and are fair and transparent by NOT REPEALING the County's existing Campaign Finance Ordinance.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting

All the Best,
Merry Gray
805/382.4243



Please, Leave a Review! [Facebook](#) [Google](#)

From: [Michele Vivirito](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 3:25:55 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

Since its enactment in 2003, this ordinance has been successful in ensuring that our local elections remain free from the undue influence of money and special interests. By incentivizing candidates to run grassroots campaigns that prioritize the public's interests, the ordinance has helped to maintain the integrity of our local elections. Repealing this ordinance would create a scenario where corporate interests and individual donors with more resources than the general public could easily sway the outcomes of our local elections.

I urge you to reconsider this proposal and keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our elections remain honest, transparent, and fair.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Michele Vivirito
Camarillo

From: [Nancy Kettner](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [Lopez, Vianey](#)
Subject: Agenda Item No. 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:25:04 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Clerk of the Board, Agenda Item 44

I oppose the proposed repeal of the entire Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.

While I understand the desire to alter the current fundraising limit from \$750 to some increased level of contribution, it does not seem necessary to eliminate the entire ordinance to implement a change in the contribution limit.

The repeal proposers refer to state statutes that would govern in the absence of the existing county ordinance however I believe it is important to maintain oversight at a local level. The Board of Supervisors has significant influence on the development and use of county resources that most directly affect our local communities.

The repeal proposers indicate there is a necessity to rely on Independent Expenditure Committees to supplement campaign marketing efforts because of the \$750 contribution limit. I would prefer to see an amendment of the existing ordinance to require full disclosure of all funding for Independent Expenditure Committees. Though these committees are presumably not “coordinating “ with the candidate’s election committee, that cannot be confirmed because there is insufficient transparency into the funding and activities of these outside committees.

I strongly support retention of the existing Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance and do not support this proposed repeal.

Nancy Kettner
285 N. Ventura Avenue
#29 Ventura CA 93001

From: [Natalie Cherot](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [LaVere, Matt](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44
Date: Friday, March 10, 2023 3:37:26 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board,

It is widely acknowledged that financial resources can impact election results. For this reason, many individuals support the establishment of limits on campaign donations. Increasing these limits may be perceived as a departure from the democratic values of impartial and equitable elections, where financial resources should not play a determining role.

I kindly request that the Board of Supervisors consider supporting campaign contribution limits.

Sincerely,

Dr. Natalie Cherot
Ventura resident.

From: [Nina Treiman](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:47:51 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. As a concerned citizen, I strongly believe that this ordinance has been a critical safeguard against the undue influence of money and special interests in our local elections. Since its implementation in 2003, the ordinance has ensured that candidates prioritize the concerns and interests of the public in their campaigns, resulting in transparent and fair elections. However, if this ordinance is repealed, it will pave the way for corporate interests and wealthy donors to exert their influence over our local elections, thereby undermining the democratic process. Therefore, I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our local elections remain honest, transparent, and fair.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Nina Treiman

From: [Norene Charnofsky](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 3:54:55 PM

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Esteemed County Supervisors,

This is to note my opposition to Supervisors Gorell and Parvin's proposal to eliminate Ventura County's current campaign finance ordinance and all of its protections.

It is definitely not Good Government to raise the current County individual limit from \$750 to \$5500.00!!
This would give Big Money donors a huge advantage over the average citizen in our County.

I urge you to defeat this proposal, which is scheduled for a vote on Tuesday, March 14, 2023.

Sincerely,
Norene M. Charnofsky
Ventura, CA

From: [Pamela Lopez](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Re: Proposed change to Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:29:44 AM

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RE: AGENDA ITEM 44

Dear Supervisors,

In order to fully represent your constituents they must have an equal voice in funding elections. Your proposed changes to the Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance puts the control and funding of county elections into the hands of corporations and the wealthiest members of our community. This change would have our newly elected officials working for the exploitation of our County instead of the protection of our County, in regards to both our members and our environment.

There are so many threats to our democratic process throughout the nation, let's keep it equitable in Ventura County.

Thank you.

Pamela Lopez-Weisman
Thousand Oaks

From: [Mali service](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 4:13:38 AM

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Dear Clerk of the Board and Supervisors,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. Since its enactment in 2003, this ordinance has been successful in ensuring that our local elections remain free from the undue influence of money and special interests. By incentivizing candidates to run grassroots campaigns that prioritize the public's interests, the ordinance has helped to maintain the integrity of our local elections. Repealing this ordinance would create a scenario where corporate interests and individual donors with more resources than the general public could easily sway the outcomes of our local elections. I urge you to reconsider this proposal and keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our elections remain honest, transparent, and fair.

We need to be getting corporate money OUT of politics, NOT increasing it!

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Pat Butler

Psbutler2024@gmail.com

(714) 318-0111

8266 Solano Street, Ventura 93004

From: [Patricia Essick](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 9:30:42 PM

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Dear Clerk of the Board and Supervisors,

I am a concerned citizen writing to you to urge you to vote against the resolution under item 44 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has served the purpose of helping to prevent special interests and money from swaying our local elections since 2003, and it incentivises candidates to prioritize the public's interests and concerns.

The recent trend of corporate interests dumping millions of dollars into campaigns is a serious threat to the integrity of our elections. If this ordinance is repealed, it will only enable those interests and wealthy donors to have an undue influence in our politics, at the expense of ordinary citizens.

I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance in place. I do not think our local candidates need to spend as much as those running for state offices. With a repeal of this ordinance we would effectively increase the campaign spending limits by 633%, which seems quite unnecessary and likely to allow those with more money to donate to have an oversized influence.

Thank you for your consideration and standing up for all the citizens of your district.

Sincerely,
Patricia Essick
2955 Hermitage Lane
Ojai, CA 93023

From: [Patrissha Patrissha](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [Long, Kelly](#)
Cc: [LaVere, Matt](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#)
Subject: Campaign Funding Increase 3
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:46:31 AM
Attachments: [Dear Board of Supervisors.docx](#)
[AN \(1\).docx](#)

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Hello All,
Attached are two letters opposing the upcoming proposals concerning campaign funding increase. Thank you.
Patrissha Booker

From: [OPunWide](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 7:39:23 AM

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To the Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I oppose the repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. If the ordinance is repealed, it will give wealthy donors and special interests an unfair influence in our elections.

Please keep rules in place that continue to lower the chances of Ventura County elections being decided by money rather than voters. As a voter in Ventura County, I think that "the best candidate money can buy" should not be our goal.

There were so many street corner signs in the last election that they were blocking each other. The county should not encourage additional sign pollution by allowing more money to be spent by corporations.

Paul Blakelock
Newbury Park, CA

From: [polly.vlasic](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 2:29:17 PM

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I OPPOSE ELIMINATING VENTURA COUNTY'S CAMPAIGN FINANCE ORDINANCE.

Polly Vlasic

From: [Rahul Mehrotra](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: I aoppose big money in our local elections
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:35:32 AM

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For the last 20 years Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign reform laws in the State of California. While we have not eliminated the influence of big money in our county elections, we have significantly limited it. We empowered local citizens' voices in elections by limiting campaign contributions to \$750.

I am writing to express my indignant opposition to the latest move to strip us of our protections. This coming Tuesday, March 14th, Supervisors Gorell and Parvin are proposing to eliminate the County's campaign finance ordinance and all of its protections. Most disturbing, contribution limits would rise from the \$750 local limit to the \$5,500 statewide limit.

Allowing the limits for donations to grow from \$750 to \$5,500 for county supervisor races is not good government for Ventura County. One couple will be able to give \$11,000. The average citizen's voice will be drowned out by big money donors. Connection to those donors rather than grassroots supporters will be the focus of far too many county candidates.

Gorell and Parvin unconvincingly state in their letter that influence buying will not be an issue because a new state law states you cannot vote on a project if you have received a donation of more than \$250 from an interested party in the previous 12 months. Imagine how easy it is to get around that restriction. Make your big contribution early in a candidate's election cycle, even well before they are elected, and then be sure your project or issue arises 12 months after your donation. Easy to do.

They imply that state law and the local county law cannot both apply simultaneously yet that is exactly what 25 counties in California currently do, including Ventura County. If you care about decreasing the influence of big money in politics, you should support lower state contribution limits and continue the benefits of having the restrictions of both state and local laws in effect in Ventura County.

The arguments for repealing our important campaign ordinance do not reflect the standards and values we have set for ourselves for the last 2 decades in Ventura County.

Most of our citizens have valued making Ventura County a special place in California, far better than the state average. We are better at stopping urban sprawl, better at limiting the influence of big money in politics, better at enhancing the influence of the average citizens over special interests and better at protecting the most disadvantaged because we have reduced the influence of those most inclined to ignore them.

Repealing our current law, removing the \$750 contribution limit, reducing transparency and ending the expenditure limits will significantly increase the amount of money flowing into county supervisors' campaigns. It will give big rollers much more direct influence on Supervisors.

For 20 years we have significantly decreased the influence of big money in our elections for county supervisor. It all could be lost by three votes this coming Tuesday, March 14th, at 10:30 in the Ventura County Board of Supervisors hearing room.

As a long-time resident of Ventura County, I oppose this wanton destruction of our way of life.

Rahul Mehrotra

2009 Las Estrellas Court
Camarillo, CA 93012

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From: [Bex](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 5:16:30 PM

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I am opposed to increasing candidate contributions.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Hopkins

Sent from my iPhone



March 13, 2023

Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

Re: Item 44 Repeal of Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance

March 13, 2023

Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

The proposed repeal of the entire Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance (Article 6 of Chapter 2 of the Ventura County Ordinance Code) fails to do what its sponsors suggest it will do. It fails to promote public trust, fails to protect the individual voter, and fails to prevent individuals or organizations from using their financial strength to allow them to control or unduly influence elected officials.

Repealing this ordinance would increase the limit of campaign contributions from \$750 to \$5,500, an amount seven times higher all at once. This would give special interests a huge unfair advantage over the ordinary Ventura County resident, especially those who reside in the two designated minority majority districts. Raising the contribution limits would not eliminate independent expenditure committees and the problems they pose as implied in the letter submitted by Supervisors Janice Parvin and Jeff Gorell dated March 14, 2023. Instead, it would compound the problems.

This repeal would cede local control of our election laws to the state. The County of Ventura should not simply repeal its own specific finance campaign reforms because 33 other counties have decided to follow the State's requirements without understanding the specific differences and needs of Ventura County and the concerns of its residents.

At the very least, the public should be allowed more time to better understand the consequences and impact of this proposed action. The public needs more than a two weeks to understand how this action will impact them.

This is not a simple amendment of Ventura County's campaign finance laws. This is instead the wholesale elimination of an entire County ordinance that the public has relied upon for election transparency and fairness.

Therefore, we request that the Board of Supervisors delay its action on the proposed repeal for at least 60-90 days to provide the people of Ventura County adequate time to better understand whether or not this repeal is in their best interests.

Rene Aiu on behalf of the Harbor & Beach Community Alliance

cc: clerk of the Board

From: [hmsbhaven2](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [District1](#); [District5](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 6:31:55 AM

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Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I have been made aware of a proposal to change the campaign finance reform ordinance. I am **opposed** to this motion. The current political climate is influenced too much by money and does not reflect the will of the people. Decisions on policies, ordinances, and legislation should be made by the majority of the vested citizens. The Board of Supervisors should not be making a unilateral decision, it should be brought to the public and be voted on. I would suggest to bring this ordinance as a ballot measure. I am sure it would be resoundingly defeated by the voters, but I would accept the desire of the people if it is not. Politicians influenced by corporate money should not control decisions where the majority rules.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Richard P Herrera

Simi Valley

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

From: [Rick Barron](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:03:09 AM

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I will not be voting for Gorell or Parvin in the next election. All can see their bad intent!

From: [Rick Sanchez](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 5:09:33 PM

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Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors

As a homeowner, former business owner and proud Ventura county resident, I am shocked that this item was snuck into the agenda at the last minute in an attempt to undermine transparency and fair play in our County Government.

No matter who you are, conservative, liberal, moderate, Republican, Democrat or independent, repealing the campaign finance contribution limits is bad for our county, all of our political affiliations and is a road map for bad Government, bought and paid for not by working people and families, but by well-funded special interests.

The current campaign finance limits in Ventura County should be maintained in order to preserve the integrity of our local elections. By limiting the amount of money that can be donated to political campaigns, we can ensure that all candidates have an equal chance of winning, rather than just those with the deepest pockets. This helps to prevent wealthy individuals and special interest groups from unduly influencing the outcome of our elections, and ensures that our elected officials are accountable to the people they serve, not just to their wealthy donors.

Furthermore, by keeping campaign finance limits in place, we can encourage candidates to focus on the issues that matter to our community, rather than simply pandering to their donors. This promotes a more honest and transparent political process, where candidates must appeal to a broad base of support in order to win, rather than relying on a small group of wealthy backers. This is especially important at the local level, where issues like infrastructure, education, and public safety directly impact our daily lives. By keeping campaign finance limits in place, we can ensure that our local officials are focused on addressing these issues, rather than on appeasing their wealthy donors.

I urge any elected official to vote a resounding NO to repeal the county contribution limits and will be watching who votes to yes, as I know who NOT to support in the 2024 elections. Do the right thing. Keep our county FREE from corruption.

Rick Sanchez
818-400-8717
rick@posthastemedia.com

From: [Rick Tanaka](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Comments on agenda item #44
Date: Saturday, March 11, 2023 6:34:32 AM

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In regards to agenda item #44, I want it to be known that we are extremely opposed to any proposal to eliminate campaign contribution limits. Our Government should serve the people in general, and if bigger money is allowed to instill heavier influence on elections than the representation of the people, by the people, for the people becomes just a representation of a few special interest groups. A fair and transparent electoral system MUST be maintained to ensure an equal opportunity for all to be represented in the making of policies that directly impact our livelihoods and that of generations to follow.

Thank you,

Rick Tanaka
Simi Valley, 93065

From: [Robin Munson](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 7:11:15 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am strongly opposed to the proposal put forward by Supervisors Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin to eliminate Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance and to raise the campaign contribution limit from \$750 to \$5,500 per individual. (Which would mean a couple could contribute \$11,000 to a local campaign.) This is well out of reach of grassroot donors. I believe if this proposal is adopted, it would tip the political scales in favor of wealthy donors and special interests, rather than ordinary working individuals. The implications for the future of our county could be deep and far-reaching.

Please keep Ventura County a place where elections can't be bought by the rich and powerful. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robin Munson

--

"My religion is kindness." - the Dalai Lama

From: [McIntyre, Ronald T](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [District1](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [District5](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 12:00:30 PM

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Dear Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,

> I urge you to vote “NO” on the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. Special interests and money play far too large a role in our local elections, and the ordinance is one of the few successful tools to counter these influences. Please vote to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our elections remain honest, transparent and fair.

> Thank you for your attention and for protecting our fair elections.

Ronald McIntyre
436 Oldstone Place
Simi Valley, CA 93065

From: [Sandy Diaz](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Reject Agenda Item 44...
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 9:46:08 PM

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Existing Ventura County **campaign finance limits** were put into action to help the individual voter and maintain the integrity of our democratic election process. Rescinding current campaign donation limits adversely impacts our democratic process of free and fair elections within our communities.

This proposal as presented is an attempt to unfairly benefit specific candidates in future elections. It is imperative that special interest money with deep pockets cannot buy elections for their chosen candidates. Support fair and balanced elections and the integrity of the democratic process. Our working class communities deserve better. We know that small donations can still make a difference in our county. Money must not be allowed to be the deciding factor in our elections. Please reject Agenda item 44.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Sandra Diaz

From: [Sarah Berger](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Please keep Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance in place
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 11:49:56 AM

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Hello,

As a 20+-year resident of Ventura County, I truly appreciate how special our community is.

In order to keep it that way, I strongly oppose Supervisors Gorell and Parvin's proposal to eliminate the County's campaign finance ordinance.

Keeping the ordinance in place is key to ensuring that special interests do not find a way to manipulate decisions in the future. Just because the ordinance has worked for twenty years doesn't mean it's no longer needed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sarah Berger
Ventura Resident

From: [Saria Kraft](#)
To: [CheckPointSource](#)
Cc: [Logan Viane](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 9:47:02 AM

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Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,
We agree with the VC Star editorial by Asm Steve Bennett and Supv Linda Parks, below. We urge you to reject Agenda Item 44, a proposal that disgraces the democratic process.

Please support fair and balanced elections where no special-interest money is allowed to buy the outcomes. Continue to limit campaign contributions in accordance with the existing ordinance. Reject the premise that any local, municipal or county official can attain elected office by means of the highest bidder.

https://protect.checkpoint.com/v2/___https://ventura.primegov.com/Portal/Meeting?meetingTemplateId=16596___YzJlOmNvdnF2YW5hbWpOm86ZThhOWZlYmZmZjJmMDA5OTJhN2Y3MjA4ZTZkYTlRlMjY6Njo1YTl0OjAyMWY0YmY1NDQ3NjQ5YzQ4YTYwNWRhNzJlODU3MDA0MmU5YzJlZmJmGRlZjllMjhlZjZlM5ZWFnNmODkwZTU6cDpG

https://protect.checkpoint.com/v2/___https://www.vcstar.com/story/opinion/2023/03/11/gorell-parvin-trying-to-eliminate-campaign-contribution-limit-law/69977540007%23l86j5wkseyjTe8iul___YzJlOmNvdnF2YW5hbWpOm86ZThhOWZlYmZmZjJmMDA5OTJhN2Y3MjA4ZTZkYTlRlMjY6NjphZWUzOjE0M2Q0YTl4YzlmMW14ZTMzNWNhOTQ5ZjllMjhlZmlyNjA3NmNmYTJlNmFIZWVmNDY4NzU2YzVmYzQxODM2ZWl6cDpG

Respectfully,
Mrs. Saria Kraft Richmond
4931 Elmhurst Street
Ventura, CA 93003
M: 805-908-2264

Sent from my iPhone

From: [scott.ripple](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:13:49 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

To the Board of Supervisors:

The answer to maintaining the vibrancy and representative nature of democracy in the County is not to flood the election process with even more private money as currently proposed. Evidence from every level of government in this country over decades shows that more private money increases the inequality of representation and, basically, turns the system into a "pay to play" corruption of the ideals envisioned by the Founders.

To preserve equality of representation, I strongly urge the Board to reject item 44 as proposed by Supervisors Gorell and Parvin.

Thank you.

Scott Ripple
Ventura

From: [Shannon Anderson](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Fwd: Comment for BOS
Date: Saturday, March 11, 2023 8:44:56 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Hello,

Please register the following comment in the record for next Tuesday's BOS meeting, re: raising campaign contribution limits -

As a resident and consistent District 3 voter, I strongly oppose lifting the \$750 cap on individual campaign contributions in Ventura County. Equating money to free speech is inherently unequal and perpetuates existing inequalities. I am proud of my county for its commitment to ensuring poor people's voices aren't drowned out by those of the wealthy and powerful. Everyone deserves an equal say, irrespective of their economic circumstances. I respectfully urge the honorable Supervisors to keep individual campaign contribution limits at \$750 in the interest of ensuring continued political equality regardless of financial circumstances.

Thank you so much!

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Anderson
Newbury Park

From: [Shawn Terris](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 11:19:31 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I strongly oppose repealing Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance.

There is absolutely no reason to repeal this successful ordinance unless you want special interests to dominate our elections since they have \$5,500 to contribute to their candidates. That would be the only reason and would drown out the voices of ordinary citizens who do not have lots of money. Hence, the reason for the current \$750 donation limit. No one person or organization should be able to influence the election disproportionately just because they have more money.

Please protect our democracy by making elections fair --- vote "no" on the proposed repeal!

Sincerely,

Shawn Terris

Voter and Ventura County resident since 1996

From: [Sparky Abraham](#)
To: [Cassidy Williams](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #1 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 10:17:48 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

I'm a small business owner in Oxnard. I'm writing to express my strong opposition to repealing the campaign finance reform ordinance. The ordinance is essential to making sure candidates are accountable to their constituents and communities, not just to donors and well funded interest groups. This proposed repeal is a step backwards for local democracy.

Thanks very much.

Sparky Abraham
Jubilee Legal
300 E Esplanade Dr. Ste 900
Oxnard, CA 93036
805.946.0386
sparky@jubilee-legal
https://protect.checkpoint.com/v2/____YzJ1OmNvdnF2YW5kbGpJOm86YWE0ZmQzYjY5ZWZWM2YjMwYjg5ZTM4NDIxNWE0MjFhMDk6NjowZWU1OmU4ZTdhNDQ4MDIhNDUzMzFmMmQ1NTUyMTIyMmQ4YzZzNzlnNmwNTU4MjhmMGY2M2M0N2MwODJhMTIhM2IzMzU6dDplU

Pronouns: he/his

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From: [Stephanie Mangano McIntyre](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [District1](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [District5](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:00:59 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance is a successful tool in helping to keep our local elections free from the undue influence of special interests and money. As a concerned citizen, I believe that grass roots campaigning gives public interests and concerns top priority and helps maintain the integrity of our local elections. Elections should be won on merit, not purchased by wealthy donors and corporate interests. Therefore, I urge you to carefully think about this proposal and keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our elections remain honest, transparent and fair.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting our fair elections.

Sincerely,

Stephanie McIntyre
436 Oldstone Pl
Simi Valley, CA 93065
(805) 422-8721

From: [Susan L. Wells](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44 / campaign finance
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 12:07:37 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Good morning

I am writing in adamant, absolute opposition to item 44. Our county campaign finance laws are fair and just. Limits keep the power in the county residents. Ventura County does NOT need huge, big money, out of area donors influencing our local elections. Ventura County is a special place, with special people. I want to know that my supervisor was elected by and for the county residents. I do not want my supervisor elected simply because that person had millions of big-money donations.

I want to know that my supervisor was elected BY and FOR the constituency he or she serves. I DO NOT want a supervisor elected because he or she had more money from someone hoping to buy influence.

Please keep big-money, dark money out of our local elections.

Thank you

Susan L Wells
1221 Black Canyon Road
Santa Susana, CA 93063

805-813-1556

From: [Terry Saidel](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 11:32:03 AM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

I am totally opposed to Gorell and Parvin's desire to eliminate our county's campaign finance ordinance. Please do what you can to defeat this terrible idea.

Thank you

*Enjoy the Day,
Terry*

From: [Tricia Keen](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Cc: [Lopez, Vianey](#); [LaVere, Matt](#)
Subject: NO to repealing the VC Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:13:13 AM

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Dear Supervisors,

I think we all know, if we are truly honest with ourselves, that allowing even more money into our elections is not good for governance. Those who give more inevitably have more influence with elected officials, and the society we have today is a mirror of that unjust representation. Permitting the limits to increase from \$750 to \$5,500 for county supervisorial races is not good government. And while Supervisors Gorell and Parvin like to argue that there are brakes on undue influence, we know there are also workarounds to those seeming guardrails.

Ventura County has done well with its current campaign finance ordinance. I'm urging you all to NOT repeal the current "perfectly good and fair" VC Campaign Finance Reform ordinance.

Thank you!

Tricia Keen

(805) 766-2420

From: [Trisha Mejia](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [LaVere, Matt](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [Lopez, Vianey](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 11:08:11 PM

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Dear Clerk of the Board and Supervisors,

My name is Trisha Mejia and I am a resident of Port Hueneme, District #5. I am also a current senior at California State University Channel Islands, currently studying Communication and Political Science. I am writing to express my thoughts and opposition to the proposed repealing of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

A few reasons why I believe this is not a suitable repeal particularly for our area, is that increasing the donation limit for campaigns from \$750 to \$5,500 is not manageable for the average person. There are not many people within our county who have the \$5,500 to donate out of pocket. This in turn gives people who have more money to donate, more of an opinion, more of an influence, and a much more lasting effect in our local politics. This can be seen and related back to corporations and larger businesses as well, who would in turn have a greater say in whom we elect. It would not be fair.

Another reason why I believe this repeal would be negative for our community, is that it undermines the very notion of democracy. In a democracy, everyone should have the same amount of influence, voice, and power as their neighbor. With this proposal we are giving this power and influence to certain people over others, and creating the idea within our own community that it is okay to do so. Our county being as diverse as it is, needs to be represented in that way, by different members of the community from different backgrounds, cultures, and economic statuses. It cannot be represented by a small percentage of the community who happen to have power because they happen to have more monetary funds.

I hope this reaches you all well.

Respectfully,
Trisha Mejia

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Valarie Grossman](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:01:28 AM

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Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. Since its enactment in 2003, this ordinance has been successful in ensuring that our local elections remain free from the undue influence of money and special interests. By incentivizing candidates to run grassroots campaigns that prioritize the public's interests, the ordinance has helped to maintain the integrity of our local elections. Repealing this ordinance would create a scenario where corporate interests and individual donors with more resources than the general public could easily sway the outcomes of our local elections. I urge you to reconsider this proposal and keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in place to ensure that our elections remain honest, transparent, and fair.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Valarie Grossman

From: [Kathy Long](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: 10:30 Agenda Item #44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:19:46 AM

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Dear Board of Supervisors: The item before you Tuesday has a long and important history in our county, for our voting residents, and for the sanctity of empowering grassroots political leaders. As a signer to the original ordinance, I recall the due diligence put into reviewing FPPC rules, along with legal council discussions. Tremendous effort was put into developing a fair ordinance in response to the public's demand for campaign finance. Key efforts to establish accountability and transparency for the public good was the foundation for the ordinance.

The public knows that self-financing and independent expenditure committees can create a serious disadvantage in campaigns. This proposal before you to repeal the local ordinance relying on the state guidelines, goes further to eliminate both the foundational principles of accountability and transparency. Having dealt with the FPPC rules, they typically take more time than the election cycle to review complaints, sometimes months after the election is certified. Additionally, the existing ordinance requires timely posting/transparency of contributions right up to within 24-hr time at certain dollar levels. This would be eliminated. These were purposeful rules in the ordinance to create fair campaign practices.

And yes, money/campaign funding does buy influence at these high levels of individual contributions. You have many other options: raise the individual contributions based on local analysis of local ordinances; and keep the transparency guidelines to assure the public trust. Over the twenty years, this campaign finance ordinance has always rated top of list for the general public's trust level of government. Don't throw out what has worked, trust the public's call for campaign finance reform, and modify the ordinance to remain focused on our local practices and principles. Vote NO on the recommendation.

Sincerely,

Kathy Long
Ventura County Supervisor Ret.
Voter

From: [Ward Leslie](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Item 44
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023 11:56:55 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I am strongly opposed to the proposal to increase the campaign contribution limits from the current \$750 value applicable to Ventura County. I believe that this weakens the voice of Ventura county individuals and increases the influence of large corporate sponsors. I believe the primary concern for these entities is the maximization of profits for their corporations as opposed to the interests of Ventura county residents.

Thank you ,

Ward Leslie

Ventura County resident since 1962.

From: [Willie L](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Item no. 44
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:54:09 AM

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Dear Clerk of the Board and Supervisors,
As a resident and voter in District 3, I'm writing to express my opposition to repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance protects the integrity of Ventura County elections, and public trust in Ventura County Government. It is needed now more than ever.

Willard Lubka
Thousand Oaks, CA

From: [David Murphy](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to Repeal
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:41:58 AM

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March 13, 2023

We are writing in opposition to the proposed Repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. The intention of the Ordinance put in place in April of 2017 as stated was to "reduce the appearance of corruption, and to prevent individuals or organizations from using their financial strength to corrupt Ventura County government by creating political debts through contributions or expenditures that allow them to control or unduly influence elected officials.."

This proposal by two current Supervisors, suggests we change the current maximum level of \$750.00 to the State level of \$5500.00 per individual per candidates election cycle. The basic reasons stated are that Ventura County do what other counties are doing and that there has been a cost-of-living increase.

We suggest that for most working-class people, a high per centage of Ventura County workers/voters, Policemen, Teachers, Construction Workers, Firemen, Retail Workers, etc. \$5500.00 per person is a very large amount to donate compared to their income. This would mean residents of great wealth would have the ability to donate a large percentage of money to local campaigns, certainly raising questions of influence.

Candidates for county offices have been able to raise large amounts of money under current restrictions. Supervisor Gorell raised over \$210,000 according to the Ventura Star in the last election. As stated in the proposal, this does not include other forms of campaign money, weather it be from the candidates own money or other political organizations. Candidate Parvin even had political ads on television.

For the sake of transparency and the idea that all citizens have an equal voice in government, especially at the local level, we request The Board reject this proposal.

Sincerely,
David Murphy
Janet Murphy
Moorpark Residents

From: [Jeremy Jacob](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Opposition to campaign contribution increase
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 7:54:11 AM

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To the Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

I would like to voice my strong opposition to the proposed repeal of Ventura County's campaign finance reform ordinance. Democracy flourishes where every citizen has an equal voice. Democracy suffers where the voices of ordinary individuals are drowned out by the wealthy and powerful few. I implore the Supervisors to do the right thing: stand for democracy, not oligarchy, The voters of Ventura County will be watching.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Jacob
5463 Summerfield St
Camarillo, CA 93012

From: [Atticus Reyes](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:59:34 AM

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Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 44, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

As a concerned resident of Ventura County, I believe that this ordinance has been instrumental in ensuring that special interests and money do not unduly influence our local elections since its inception in 2003. With its emphasis on grassroots campaigning and prioritizing the public's interests and concerns, the ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections.

It pains me to see that in an era where we are all witnessing the effects corporate greed and special money interests have on the policymaking of Climate Change, income inequality, affordable healthcare, affordable higher education, and many other issues, we in Ventura County would consider contributing to a culture that prioritizes profits, wealthy donors, and special interests over the idea of good government that is of the people, by the people, and for the people.

I urge you to keep the ordinance in place to prevent the influence of corporate interests and individual donors with greater resources than the general public from swaying the outcomes of our local elections.

Thank you for your attention and for protecting fair elections and reporting.

Sincerely,

Atticus Ford Reyes

Trustee, Area #3

Ojai Board of Education