

**From:** [Abigail Wordin](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:00:28 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50 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 If this ordinance is repealed, it will only enable these interests and wealthy donors to have an undue influence on our local politics, at the expense of ordinary citizens.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,  
Abigail Wordin

**From:** [Al Schwartz](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item #50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 12:22:22 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am deeply disturbed by the attempt to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.

I oppose this Agenda item #50, which increases the contribution limit by over 600% and could easily lead to grassroots support being seriously — and often — outweighed by larger corporate, special interest, or independently wealthy donors. These powerful groups will be able to support their own candidates for county political offices with checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial and considerable increase over the existing county limit of \$750.

As far as I know, there has been NO independent analysis of the impact of this proposed repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. This is an unconscionable oversight on the part of the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,  
Alan Schwartz  
4496 Coffeetree Ln, Moorpark, CA 93021

**From:** [Alden Sliter](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item No. 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:47:41 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

As a concerned Ventura County resident, I am urging the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to object to the repeal of Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance. For two decades, Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign finance rules — prioritizing accountability and transparency and allowing grassroots funded candidates to compete. If the Ventura County Board of Supervisors repeals Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance this will dilute the power of local, grassroots activists and give more opportunities for special interests — like oil and developers — to buy influence in our local policy. This is a huge step backward from moving towards a healthy democracy rooted in transparency and accountability. I urge you to reject this repeal and listen to the vast majority of Americans who want less money in political campaigns.

Sincerely,  
Alden Sliter  
6902 Crowley Ave, Ventura, CA 93003

**From:** [Alex Cangialose](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Agenda #50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:01:31 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Hello –

I am reaching out to comment that the campaign donations cap of \$750 should NOT be changed. Increasing the cap only serves industrial donors and incumbent board members. Increasing the cap allows big money to influence our local politics, which rarely serves the public. Increasing the cap provides an unfair advantage for incumbent board members, as it will make it more difficult for citizen candidates to run against them once they've fundraised with these premium donors.

This cap increase does NOT serve our Ventura County citizens and does NOT need to be changed.

Alex Cangialose

**From:** [Alex Karic](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50 Comment  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:44:59 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Hello,

A comment regarding Agenda Item 50:

I'm writing to ask that the campaign donations of \$750 not be changed, and that county staff prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500. I do not support the proposed measure to scrap the cap of campaign contributions to Supervisor candidates.

Thank you,  
Alex Karic

**From:** [Alie Keegan](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item No. 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:53:24 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

As a concerned Ventura County resident, I am strongly urging (pleading) the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to OBJECT to the repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

For twenty plus years, Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign finance rules – prioritizing accountability and transparency and allowing grassroots funded candidates to compete. If the Ventura County Board of Supervisors repeals Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance this will dilute the power of local, grassroots activists and give more opportunity for special interests – like oil and developers – to buy influence in our local policy. It's important for the community's voice to be heard and for candidates who represent their neighborhoods and local interests to be able to have a fair shot at running for Ventura County seats.

This is a HUGE step backward from moving towards a healthy democracy rooted in transparency and accountability. I urge you to reject this repeal and listen to the vast majority of Americans who want less money in political campaigns.

Thank you for taking the time to listen,  
Allison Keegan  
Santa Paula, CA

**From:** [Allana Stepp](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Repeal of \$750.00 campaign donation limit  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 4:35:53 PM

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I am opposed to the proposed repeal.

I believe the \$750.00 donation limit allows for a better, more accurate representation of the will of all the citizens of the County, not just those who may have more money to spend on a particular issue.

Thank you for sharing my opinion with the Board of Supervisors, during their March 28 th 2023 meeting.

Allana and Thomas' iPhone

**From:** [Allen Chinn](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:55:54 PM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

Allen Chinn

46 Debussy Lane

Ventura, CA 93003

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)



**From:** [Allen Dirrim](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:17:08 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

Allen Dirrim  
432 Palm Drive  
Oxnard, CA 93030

**From:** [Alyse Korn](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:26:07 AM

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To: Clerk of the Board

I am writing in reference to agenda item 50.

I ask that the Board not change the cap of \$750 on campaign donations.

I also request that staff prepare a report on the proposed change to \$5,500.

Thank you.

Alyse Korn  
715 Sunset Place  
Ojai, CA 93023

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Amanda Caloia](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Analyze Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 2:35:17 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Hello,

I'm am writing with great concern for the health of the people and landscape of Ventura County. I am requesting that the campaign donations cap for agenda item 50 of \$750 not be changed. I am also requesting that county staff provide analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500.

I fear Ventura County will not be the beautiful, healthy and long sustaining community that it is today if we do not promptly accommodate these requests.

Thank you for your time and action,  
Amanda

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Sent from the trail.

**From:** [Amanda Happle](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50 Public Comment  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:29:16 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dear County Supervisors,

Please accept my comment on Agenda Item 50.

I am writing to request that the cap on campaign donations be capped at \$750 and not be expanded. We all know the effects of permitting outside campaign donations – why would we allow outside interests to sway local issues? One of the most important resources that Ventura County has is its coastline and open spaces. By allowing excessive donations, we are inviting outside interests such as developers and oil industry executives to influence decisions being made to protect those resources. Please think long term here for what is best for future generations of this County and planet!

Best regards,  
Amanda Happle

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Amanda Happle | Patagonia | Deputy General Counsel

[Pronouns:](#) she/her/hers

*Privileged and confidential Attorney-Client Communication and Attorney Work Product*

**From:** [A-J S](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:32:59 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors:

The purpose of this email is to express my fervent opposition to the proposed resolution under item 50, which will repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

This ordinance has been an important component of fair and transparent local elections in our county since 2003. It ensures that candidates prioritize grassroots campaigns that prioritize the public's interests over the influence of money and special interests. It has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections. If this ordinance is repealed, it will create a scenario where wealthy donors and corporate interests' contributions 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.

Sincerely,  
Andrea Soriano  
Camarillo

**From:** [Andrew](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Ventura County BoS 3/28/23 Meeting - Public Comment on Agenda Item #50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 8:44:04 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Regarding Agenda Item 50 to be reviewed for approval at the 3/28/23 Board meeting, I would like to express my strong opposition to the County's proposal to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. As so many commenters opposing this action stated well in their letters on Agenda item 44 of the 3/14/23 Board meeting, this repeal is against the principles on which this country was founded. Influence through money should be minimized in politics, not be an avenue to purchase votes or provide kickbacks for favors.

The responses opposing this proposal also prove that the residents of Ventura County are engaged with and concerned about elections. When the County moves to hand-counted paper ballots for all future elections, the voters will be expressing their satisfaction, or lack thereof, at the fair and transparent ballot box.

The Board should not repeal the existing Ordinance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Andrew Maria  
Ventura County Resident

**From:** [Annelisa Cohen](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Vote no on campaign finance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 2:46:52 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Clerk of the Board of the County of Ventura,

Regarding Agenda Item 50

Please vote to keep the cap to the campaign donations at \$750. Increasing the cap will only give more power to industry and less to the citizens of Ventura County. Please prepare an analysis of the effects of increasing the cap to \$5.500 to be clear and transparent. More money to political powers will bring corruption that only benefits the profit away from us, the citizens and our safety.

Thank you,  
Annelisa Cohen  
Ojai Valley Resident  
565 Tico Road

**From:** [Arturo S. de la Cerda](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Subject: Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 5:55:48 PM

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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,

Arturo S. de la Cerda

Help me find a cure for Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD). Please reply to learn more.  
Awareness is one step closer to a cure!!



**From:** [Barbara Leighton](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [Gordon Clint](#)  
**Subject:** Item # 50 – meeting 3-28-23  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:42:58 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Supervisors:

Over the past 20 years we've appreciated the steadfast work of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors in promoting economic opportunities with safe living and working conditions, plus a healthy environment for all people who live here.

It is alarming to see the sudden shift in focus toward big campaign donors over the concerns of regular people. We believe that allowing an immediate increase in campaign contribution limits by over 7 times their current level, all at once, is outrageous!

If changes in campaign rules and contribution limits are to be made, there should be a gradual process with careful discernment instead of sudden action by a narrow vote that is contrary to the fair treatment of most of our population. It is a deep insult to hard-working people doing their best to get by to suddenly turn our elections over to the wealthy and special interests.

Sincerely,

Barbara Leighton and Gordon Clint

4102 Greenwood St.  
Newbury Park, CA 91320

**From:** [Barry Goch](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:25:45 AM

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Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the resolution under item 50, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

As a voter in Ventura County, I am deeply concerned about the possibility of repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

I believe that this ordinance is essential 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 first.

I urge you to stand with the people of Ventura County and protect the integrity of our elections.

Sincerely,

Barry Goch

**From:** [Betsy Bachman](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign funding  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 6:13:56 PM

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Please do not raise the limit. The current rules have made Ventura County a place where big donors, developers and oil interests don't prevail. Thank you.

Elizabeth Bachman  
Ojai CA

**From:** [Bette Empol](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 11:28:06 PM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

***Bette Empol***  
***Concerned Citizen***  
***Supervisory District 2***

**From:** [Bill Loehr](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:02:17 AM

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Dear sirs; madam:

With regards to agenda item 50, please do not raise the contribution cap. Please retain the current contribution cap of \$750.

Thank you

Bill Loehr  
1365 Shippee Lane  
Ojai, CA 93023  
(805) 804-7615

**From:** [Brenda Holmes](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** tem No. 50.  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:26:41 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Voting to change the rule to allow big money to control our Board of Supervisors is WRONG

We are not a rich county we are mostly working class poor. Only a few people in this county could comfortably donate \$750. A very – very- tiny % or people could donate \$5,500.

Looking at these facts one can see, if they care to be informed, that this changes the power structure to RICH only controlling our county. This proposal might sneak and pass NOW but a smart politician would be wise to realized this will not stay private and quiet.

This vote will be very PUBLIC information at the next election cycle.

Thank you  
Brenda Holmes  
4021 Oriol Ln  
Oxnard, CA

**From:** [brennan.balloonsforeveryone.com](mailto:brennan.balloonsforeveryone.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:43:03 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Hello,

My name is Brennan Stasiewicz and I'm a Ventura resident who would like to voice my strong opposition to Agenda item 50 to raise the campaign donations cap to \$5,500. I ask that the campaign donation cap of \$750 not be changed and that county staff prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap.

Kindly,

Brennan Stasiewicz

**From:** [Rasnow, Brian K.](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** public comment on item #50 of 3/27/23 Board of Supervisor"s meeting  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 7:18:59 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Greetings,

Our political system is already heavily dominated by wealthy donors and their interests, and serves the interests of the wealthy much more than the collective, common interests of our residents. We need to get more money OUT of politics, not put more money into it. Therefore, I oppose the repeal of a campaign spending ordinance that will only make our elections less democratic.

Thank you.

Best wishes,

Brian Rasnow, Ph.D.  
Depts. of Physics and Computer Science  
California State University Channel Islands  
One University Drive  
Camarillo, CA 93012  
[brian.rasnow@csuci.edu](mailto:brian.rasnow@csuci.edu)  
[www.rasnowpeak.com/brian](http://www.rasnowpeak.com/brian)



All we have is our powerlessness, and that is our strength - Václav Havel  
"Unless we change direction, we are likely to end up where we are going" - *Chinese proverb*  
"The only time we lose is when we quit." - Ceasar Chavez



**From:** [re](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** agenda item #50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:19:09 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Sir

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed change to the Ventura County campaign finance law. This change significantly dilute the ability of the small not wealthy residents of the County from having an influence on electing their county government officials. The current restrictions have worked well for years and we do not see a reason to make this change.

C.Albert Reeve  
607 Deseo Ave.  
Camarillo, CA 93010  
805-390-2074

Via email:  
clerkoftheboard@ventura.org

CAROL E KURTZ  
8550 Mipolomol Road  
Malibu, CA 90265-2120

Dear Ventura County Supervisors:

I am writing to urge you to vote **"NO"** on the proposal to repeal campaign contribution limits, which would raise the limit for campaign contribution to an amount aimed at benefitting the super wealthy and special interests.


This is the worst action I could imagine. It will ruthlessly undo the progressive policies of former Ventura County Board President Carmen Ramirez, tragically killed less than one year ago as she walked across a pedestrian crossing in the city of Oxnard.

It's wrong and hateful. Just when ordinary people were able to participate in their government and have a voice in the elections of their local officials, some of you (including our own Supervisor Jeff Gorrell) are thumbing their nose at all of us who want *to keep government open and available to all*. This action stinks to high heaven.

Please vote "NO" on the retrograde action to return campaign finance to the "good old boy" past.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Carol Kurtz  
8550 Mipolomol Road  
Malibu, CA 90265  
carolekurtz@gmail.com

**From:** [cjkeavney@verizon.net](mailto:cjkeavney@verizon.net)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance – March 28, 2023  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:45:49 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

**Subject: Agenda Item 50: Second Public Hearing on Adoption of an Ordinance of the County of Ventura Repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance**

**First Heard on March 14, 2023, Item No. 44 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance**

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I am a voter in Ventura County, and I strongly oppose the repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. If this ordinance is repealed, it will give special interests and big donors an unfair advantage in our elections, drowning out the voices of ordinary citizens.

Please stand with the people of Ventura County and protect fair and transparent elections by keeping this important ordinance in place.

Sincerely,  
Carol J. Keavney  
Newbury Park

*Warmest Regards,*  
**Carol J. "C.J." Keavney**  
[cjkeavney@verizon.net](mailto:cjkeavney@verizon.net)  
805.469.2192 | 805.498.7262

**From:** [sespe@me.com](mailto:sespe@me.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:52:41 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To Clerk of the Board@ Ventura.org,

Please add my submission concerning agenda item 50 that the campaign donations cap of \$750 NOT be changed.

Also, I ask that the county staff prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500.

Thank you.

Carol Pierce  
6175 Rose Valley Rd.  
Ojai, CA 93023

**From:** [Carol Ramser](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50 - Do Not Change the Cap on Campaign Contributions  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:29:56 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Board of Supervisors -

I implore you to not lift the \$750 cap on campaign contributions.

We cast our votes in this county based on the candidates, and not on the rich donors who buy their votes with large cash contributions.

We don't want corporations, especially big oil, in charge of our government.

At a minimum, the Board staff should prepare a report on the proposed change to \$5,500.

Sincerely,  
Carol Ramser  
Santa Paula

**From:** [Cathy Olson](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 12:47:41 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I vote no on item 50.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Cathy Trevino](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #50 Tue March 3/28/23  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:30:10 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors

I am writing to voice my very strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 50, which, if passed, will 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. If repealed, we will have county elections where corporate interests and individual donors with more resources than the general public could easily sway the outcomes of our local elections.

This is an attempt to disregard the will of the people of our beloved County and subvert their votes for dollars.

Bad Bad Bad politics and if passed, we will work very hard to keep you out of office on your next campaign.

Most Sincerely yours,  
Cathy Trevino  
1574 Seabridge Lane  
Oxnard, CA 93035

**From:** [CC Mgee](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:24:13 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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

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/ candidates like me.

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

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



**From:** [Cheryl De Bari Schaible](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** STOP DIRTY ELECTION PRACTICES!  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:12:36 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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,  
REALLY?

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the resolution under item 50, 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,

Cheryl A. De Bari

**From:** [Christine Elowitt](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [Supervisor Gorell](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50 on Tuesday's agenda  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:03:14 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I would like to publicly comment that I oppose changing the Ventura County campaign finance rules. The current rules work well and placed all of our current elected officials in their positions. We don't need to become a county of constant corruption and scandal where special interests try to buy votes like L.A. County. In Ventura County, the citizens should keep calling the shots.

Christine Elowitt  
Thousand Oaks

**From:** [Craig Leidersdorf](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Repeal of Campaign Limits  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 6:36:00 PM

---

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Dear Sir or Madam,

As a longtime resident of what I have found to be a well-governed county, I oppose repealing the existing campaign limits in the strongest possible terms. Money is not the answer to responsible governance.

Sincerely,  
Craig Leidersdorf

Sent from my phone

**From:** [Craig Walker](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [ALASDAIR COYNE](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50 for Supervisor meeting 3/28/2023  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:35:48 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Board of Supervisors,

I am **OPPOSED** to changing the cap on campaign donations. The proposed change will result in an uneven playing field for voters, many of whom can't afford large political donations. Please leave it a \$750! I am requesting that staff prepare a report on the proposed change to \$5,500.

Thank you!

Craig Walker  
Ojai Valley (Mira Monte Area)

**From:** [Damien Etchaubard](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50 - Do not change donation cap  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:49:09 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Hi,

I'm writing to ask that you the campaign donations cap of \$750 not be changed, and add that county staff prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500.

Thank you,  
Damien



**Damien Etchaubard (he/him)**

Workwear  
[Patagonia, Inc.](#),  
[5301 N Ventura Ave](#)  
[Ventura, CA 93001](#)  
(805) 206-7826



**From:** [Daniel Reder](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Subject: Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:06:20 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

**Subject: Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance**

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,  
I am writing to express my strong opposition to the resolution under item 50, 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,

Daniel Reder

**From:** [David and Rebecca Gilbertson](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment - VC Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda Item #50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:34:49 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Given our country's current mood, it is vital to restore public trust in government. Repealing the cap on individual campaign contributions does not help in restoring that trust. It opens the door to greater influence from "big money" special interests. Ventura County has already experienced the influence of "big money" from the oil and gas industry on our elections. Just last year, the oil and gas industry spent millions of dollars on Ventura County's ballot Measures A & B.

The current proposal before the Board of Supervisors, calls for raising the limit from \$750. to \$5,500. per individual. This is over a 700% increase from the current campaign limit an individual can contribute. It is likely that most individuals don't have the financial resources to make large contributions to a candidate.

Ventura County's current ordinance provides a more equitable democratic process, where individuals, with limited campaign funds, but who desire to serve their community, are able to run for office. Money should not be the determining factor in whether a candidate chooses to run for public office.

We need to ensure that our elected officials are spending more time listening to their constituents than courting campaign contributions from special interest groups. We urge the Board of Supervisors to vote NO on repealing Ventura County's individual campaign contribution.

Respectfully,

David & Rebecca Gilbertson  
Camarillo, CA

**From:** [rebecca brown](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50 response  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:43:37 AM

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Please do not change the cap of \$750 on campaign donations!

Also I request that staff prepare a report on the proposed change to \$5,500

Removing the current cap will allow fossil fuel interests too great of a say on Ventura County's environmental policies.

David G Brown from Ojai CA



**From:** [Dave Fishman](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [ALASDAIR COYNE](#); [Mark Halvorsen](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:14:32 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

County of Ventura Board of Supervisors,

This letter is regarding agenda item 50.

I urge you not change the cap of \$750 on campaign donations!

I also request that staff prepare a report on the proposed change to a cap of \$5,500.

Respectfully,

David S. Fishman

**From:** [david@dbshepard.us](mailto:david@dbshepard.us)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:04:43 AM

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## RE: Repeal of Finance Campaign Ordinance

The existing campaign finance ordinance must NOT be repealed. There is already too much money in politics.

I will be sure to remember any supervisor who votes to repeal it.

David Shepard

Camarillo

**From:** [Debbie Diamond](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Please Give This Email To Each Member of The Board of Supervisors Regarding Item #50 on 3/28/2023. Thank You!  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 12:15:22 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Ventura County Supervisors,

For many years Ventura County has benefited from having the Campaign Finance Ordinance. It is not right that the two new people on the Board, Supervisors Gorrell and Parvin's proposal to eliminate the ordinance and its protections is unfair. It's obvious they want it for their benefit, and it leaves out people who can't get those huge donations, \$5,500, and winning elections are usually for ones who raise the most money to advertise. That's buying their seats. It also gives big money Doners a huge advantage over those who can't donate that much. It's unfair, and the Ordinance we have in place has worked very well all these years and we should keep it.

Please vote NO on the proposal #50 on March 28th.

Yours truly,

Debbie Diamond  
Ventura, CA

**From:** [Debbie Lucas](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item No 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:53:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

As a concerned Ventura County resident, I am urging the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to object to the repeal of Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance. For two decades, Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign finance rules—prioritizing accountability and transparency and allowing grassroots funded candidates to compete. If the Ventura County Board of Supervisors repeals Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance this will dilute the power of local, grassroots activists and give more opportunities for special interests—like oil and developers—to buy influence in our local policy. This is a huge step backward from moving towards a healthy democracy rooted in transparency and accountability. I urge you to reject this repeal and listen to the vast majority of Americans who want less money in political campaigns.

debbie lucas | sample manager

**patagonia**

**From:** [Debbie Mitchell](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item 50: Second Hearing of Repeal of Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:03:40 PM

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Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

Re: 3/28 Item 50: Second Hearing of Repeal of Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance

Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

PLEASE VOTE NO on the repeal!

Based on the first hearing it seems that the motion to repeal will not be influenced by the public – the constituents of the County.

The whole purpose of campaign limits was to empower the constituents to support candidates and restrict corporate and special interests from undue influencing our elections.

Where are the benefits to the County and its people?

The repeal clearly does not promote public trust.

The repeal diminishes the intended rationale for having Majority Minority Districts.

These issues do not appear to concern the proponents of this repeal.

I request the Board delay its action on the proposed repeal or to have this repeal placed on the ballot in 2024.

What is the harm in allowing the public a say in this matter of policy?

-----  
Debbie Mitchell  
Oxnard Resident

1-310-804-2382  
[debbiem@companyv.com](mailto:debbiem@companyv.com)



**From:** [Debby Reisinger](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 7:37:34 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Keep elections for County Board of Supervisors about qualifications and a desire to serve the community **not** about fundraising from special interests.

Twenty years of successful elections under the current law speak for themselves. Ventura County residents do not want changes to contribution limits that may block some candidates from running and allow those able to contribute more to have more influence.

Keep the campaign contribution limits that allowed you the honor of serving your community. Do not raise the campaign donation limits.

Debby Reisinger  
190 Palomares Avenue  
Ventura CA 93003  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Deborah Faneros](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:45:45 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under item 50, 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.**

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

Sincerely,

Deborah Faneros



**From:** [morrispartyof4@aol.com](mailto:morrispartyof4@aol.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [District1](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [District5](#)  
**Subject:** Item 50, Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 4:13:04 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Clerk of the Board and Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to state my opposition to proposed item 50, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Election Ordinance.

As the recent Co-Chair of the Ventura County Women's Political Council - PAC, I am particularly concerned about the fact that the proposed ordinance will remove the current 12 month prior to the primary fundraising date and make every day of every year a permissible day for candidate fundraising. The current 12 month funding limitation works as a gap on the amount of fundraising that can be done in two ways, one, by limiting the annual number of cycles that a candidate can fundraise in to one calendar year cycle prior to the primary, and two by limiting the candidate from receiving maxed out donations to the respective years within the 12 month primary limitation rather than to four years of limitless fundraising.

I am also opposed to raising the fundraising limit as Ventura County is not Los Angeles County and our population of less than a million people is not dense or sprawling. Candidates for Ventura County Supervisor are not tasked with having to reach millions of people, rather less than 250,000 each. As such, campaigning in this county is nowhere as expensive or geographically challenging as in Los Angeles County, as the Supervisorial Districts are continuous and readily accessible.

Finally, if the ordinance passes then candidates will need to rely on the California Fair Political Practices Commission not our locally present elections office in order to respond to complaints and assess compliance with disclosure requirements. There is no reason to remove election safeguards that serve the people of Ventura County, unless you as an elected official are not interested in doing the business of the people of Ventura County but those of outsiders.

Based on the foregoing, I respectfully ask that you vote to reconsider this item, and thereafter work on amending the existing Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance which serves your constituents, rather than replacing it with a new ordinance that does not.

Sincerely,  
Deborah Meyer-Morris, M.A.  
Attorney/Advocate

Ventura, California

Sincerely,

**From:** [Denise Ellis Stewart](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Against the repeal of 20-year-old campaign finance rules  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:10:47 AM

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Dear Clerk,

I'm in support of the current campaign finance rules and **AGAINST** the repeal on which you are getting ready to vote.

Please vote NO and keep current finance rules in place.

Spending on campaigns is out of control. I'm sick of the waste in mailers and being inundated with trashy commercials from candidates.

I will note this vote and will not support any candidate that votes to raise the amounts that votes in favor of the repeal. Supervisors Jeff Gorell, Kelly Long, and Janice Parvin do not have their finger on the pulse of their constituents in the proposal of this repeal. They are thinking of their own self interest and not considering the negative impact this will have on future campaigns.

Please protect your constituents, vote NO, and keep the current campaign finance rules in place.

Thank you,  
Denise Stewart

--

**From:** [Diana Kubilos](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:08:21 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50 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 and thus to our local democratic processes. **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 listen to the large numbers of residents who have spoken and written to you, pleading for you to keep this Campaign Finance Ordinance in place. I also **urge you to ask yourselves if you want your legacy to be one of defending our local democratic process, or of being responsible for beginning to dismantle it?**

Please remember you were voted in to represent the public, not corporate interests.

Thank you for your consideration.

Diana Kubilos  
Ventura resident

**From:** [Diane Hubbard](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Contributions  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:54:34 AM

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While I recognize we live in a representative democracy, not majority rule, your decision to so blatantly disregard the hundreds of voters who asked you not to change the campaign contribution limit is both disappointing and disturbing. Is this how we can expect the next few years to go?

Increasing the amount of money a person can contribute to a campaign is so self-serving. Obviously you are not interested in hearing from grassroots organizations. It appears we have arrived at a “Power speaks to Power” situation.

Please reconsider this vote. At the very least, it should be an initiative submitted to the voters in Ventura County.  
Sent from Diane's iPhone

**From:** [Doc Pierce](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:55:43 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Please add my submission concerning agenda item 50 that the campaign donations cap of \$750 NOT be changed.

Also, I ask that the county staff prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500.

Thank you.

Doc Pierce  
6175 Rose Valley Rd.  
Ojai, CA 93023

**From:** [donadpugh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donadpugh@sbcglobal.net)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:01:24 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Subject: **Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance**

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,  
I am strongly opposed to the resolution under item 50, which would repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

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,

Dona Pugh  
13672 Bear Valley Rd.  
Moorpark, CA 93021

**From:** [Don Edwards](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda 50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 5:31:34 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Please be advised that we are apposed to any increase in campaign donations . Campaign donations increase will only increase the temptation of election officials to make decisions that are not in best benefit for regular citizens. Please don't let big donors ruin decisions making to our beautiful Ventura County .

Thank you ,  
Donald Edwards  
924 Fairview Rd  
OJAI , Ca 93023  
805-340-3192

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Antonio Viscarra](#)  
**To:** [Clerk@ventura.org](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to raising contributions limits to political campaigns  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:00:54 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors of Ventura County,

I have been a physician in a Ventura County Clinic for 7 years and a Ventura county resident. I **oppose** raising the contribution limits of the Supervisors based on the unlevel playing field this would create between incumbents and prospective candidates. A modest increase, I could understand. But raising it by 733%? Please! Keeping the contributions at their current limits ensures a level playing field in protecting the public's interests.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Antonio Viscarra  
Sierra Vista Family Medical Clinic, Simi Valley



Reply

Forward

**From:** [Eddie Lader](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 7:34:13 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To Whom it may concern,

Just vote no on the repeal Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. This is not in the best interest of Ventura County.

Edward Lader  
Camarillo

**From:** [Edmundo Chavez](#)  
**To:** [Supervisor Gorell](#); [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:43:22 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I strongly oppose the repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. If this ordinance is repealed, it will give wealthy donors and special interest groups undue influence in our elections, leaving ordinary citizens without a voice.

Please do the right thing and protect fair and transparent elections in Ventura County.

Sincerely,

Edmundo Chavez  
1139 Via Latina Drive  
Camarillo, CA 93012

**From:** [Elizabeth Memel](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Cap on donations  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 7:51:26 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

We want no change to the \$750 cap on donations to our county supervisors' political campaigning. This Board of Supervisors must raise the integrity bar - not the corrupt reputation bar!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth and Lawrence Memel

Ojai

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [theatreger5678@yahoo.com](mailto:theatreger5678@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:21:10 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Clerk of the Board and 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,

Elizabeth Barr

Simi Valley

**From:** [Ellen Garrett](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Do not repeal the limit on campaign contributions  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:44:54 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Board of Supervisors:

I am vehemently against the raised of campaign contributions limits.

Government jobs are supposed to be to serve the people - not to serve those who are most able to pay for officials votes. I am against Jeff Gorell's positions of strong pro-growth in Ventura County and against the influx of big-donor contributions to buy influence on our local government.

Thank you.

I am a 72 year of age, Ventura County resident for 23 years.

Ellen Garrett  
550 Paige Lane  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360  
(818)209-7666

**From:** [Emmma Aist](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:27:26 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Board of Supervisors of Ventura County:

I am writing the Board to express my objection to repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

I am a young voter and I have appreciated the strong restrictions on how much people can spend to support the campaigns for Board Supervisor seats. It is not in the best interests of ALL people in this county for you to allow those with more money to be able to donate more for election and re-election campaigns, because those of us with less money won't be able to have the same influence in these political races.

Also, I saw that the oversight committee for campaign finance issues would be abolished along with repealing current finance limits and I think it is wrong for you to remove that means of addressing/preventing violation of the restrictions.

Sincerely,  
Emmma Aist  
8892 Tacoma Street  
Ventura 93004

**From:** [Flip Barth](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item No. 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:45:30 AM

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Hello,

My family and I have recently moved to Ventura, and I'm concerned to hear that the Board of Supervisors for Ventura County is considering a repeal of our Campaign Finance Ordinance in order to raise the existing limit to \$5,500.

I was happy to hear that Ventura County has existing limitations on campaign contributions. I'm concerned that raising this limit will only allow special interests to buy influence in our community.

Please reject this repeal. We want less money in politics, not more. We want the ability for grassroots candidates to compete with special interests, not the other way around.

Best,  
Flip Barth



**From:** [Florie Gilbard](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Subject line: Agenda item #50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 1:29:15 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am deeply disturbed by the attempt to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.

I oppose this Agenda item #50, which increases the contribution limit by over **600%** and could easily lead to grassroots support being seriously — and often — outweighed by larger corporate, special interest, or independently wealthy donors. These powerful groups will be able to support their own candidates for county political offices with checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial and considerable increase over the existing county limit of \$750.

As far as I know, there has been **NO** independent analysis of the impact of this proposed repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. This is an unconscionable oversight on the part of the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,  
Florie Gilbard  
12 Inez St., Camarillo, CA 93012

**From:** [Frances Lee](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item 50: Adoption of an Ordinance repealing the VC Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:42:42 AM

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To the Clerk of the Board, please accept my comments:

I am a resident of Moorpark. I was shocked to hear that Janice Parvin, ex-Mayor of Moorpark began, as one of her first motions of reform for the VC Board of Supervisors rules, would choose to repeal a Campaign Finance Law that was meant to give voters confidence in their government officials. Without any review by an independent group, Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin propose this Ordinance to increase the contribution of an individual 633%! This is even more than the federal campaign limits. Another point I want to make is, what is the rush? Coincidentally, Kelly Long is up for re-election and it would be much easier for her to raise a lot of money to win back her seat, and for the board to hold a majority; a majority that is voting against the small communities, the farm workers, the grassroots.  
Even if it is not corrupt, it has that appearance.

I propose that the BOS wait on this repeal, and conduct an independent review, in an open, transparent way, before scraping the old law.

I oppose the adoption of an ordinance to repeal the VC Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.

Frances Lee  
Moorpark, CA

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [gailbymail@aol.com](mailto:gailbymail@aol.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Count lections  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 6:52:45 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am writing in response to an upcoming vote on repealing the campaign finance limits for Ventura County. I am against it and encourage a "no" voted on this. This law is good for the county and finance limits should be maintained.

Thank you.

Gail Ginell  
Thousand Oaks, Calif.

**From:** [Geoffrey Dann](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 4:11:54 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I strongly oppose the repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. If this ordinance is repealed, it will give wealthy donors and special interest groups undue influence in our elections, leaving ordinary citizens without a voice.

Please do the right thing and protect fair and transparent elections in Ventura County.

Sincerely,  
Geoffrey Dann  
184 N Wake Forest Ave, Ventura 93003

**From:** [Gerhard Bombe](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:39:12 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

Gerhard Bombe  
949-463-5521

**From:** [Glenn Freeman](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance (Agenda Item 50)  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:25:24 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Board of Supervisors and the Clerk of the Board,

I am writing to express my grave concern regarding the resolution under item 50 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. Please stand up for the people of Ventura County and preserve fair and transparent elections by keeping this important ordinance in place !!

Cordially,

Glenn Freeman  
5369 Gillespie St, Ventura, CA 93003

**From:** [Glenn Goveia](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:05:01 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I urge a strong NO vote on increasing campaign financing amounts. The last thing we need in our county is the ability for individuals and/or corporations to buy off our candidates/board members. Our politicians should not get into power by being bought off; esp by the oil industry. Win your elections based on policy NOT contributions. Vote NO.

Glenn Goveia  
Ventura, CA

#VOTENO

**From:** [Glenna Hayes](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Increasing the maximum campaign contribution limit to \$5,500  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 5:39:33 PM

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I oppose the proposed increase. \$5,500 is a very generous campaign contribution. Contributions of this size can give a candidate a huge campaign advantage. The average local citizen would probably consider this amount to be unaffordable. It is more likely to represent a contribution from some special interest, a contributor that may expect to gain monetarily from the candidate's election. In the interest of fairness, I recommend that we do not repeal the \$750 individual campaign contribution limit.



**From:** [g.valladolid](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Supervisors meeting March 28 2023  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 6:33:27 PM

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Agenda No. 50  
Keep the \$750 current campaign donations cap in place.

Gloria Valladoilid  
1129 Maricopa Hwy B-251  
Ojai CA 93023

**From:** Holly Johnson  
**To:** ClerkoftheBoard  
**Subject:** Fwd: BIG \$\$\$ in our local elections? Tues. 3/28 will decide  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:11:53 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.

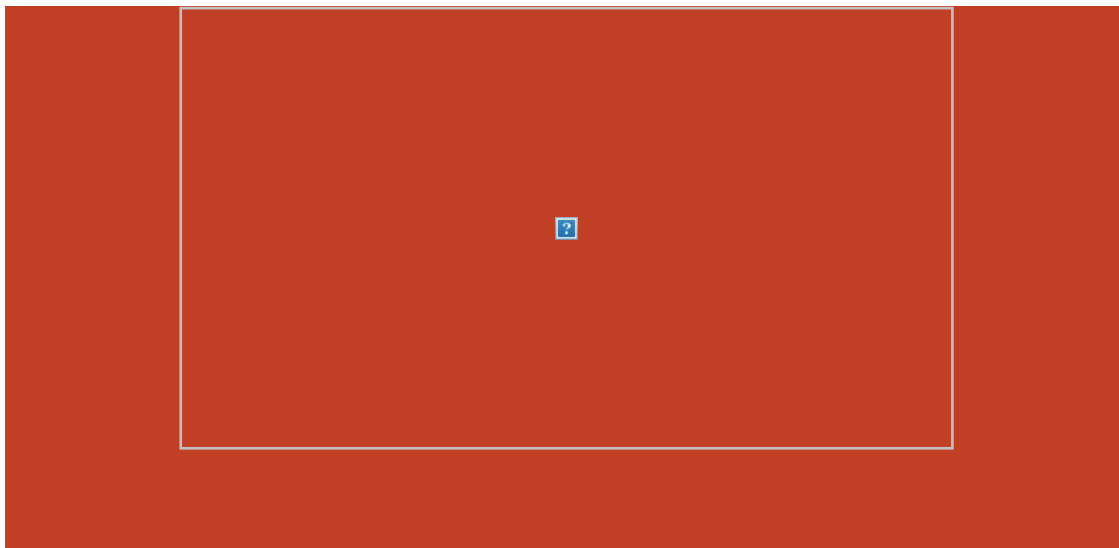
# Do NOT repeal Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance!

----- Forwarded message -----  
**From:** Camarillo Sustainable Growth <[camarillosustainablegrowth@gmail.com](mailto:camarillosustainablegrowth@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Fri, Mar 24, 2023 at 12:05 PM  
**Subject:** BIG \$\$\$ in our local elections? Tues. 3/28 will decide  
**To:** <[hollyv123@gmail.com](mailto:hollyv123@gmail.com)>

View this email in your browser.



What's this?!  
They're voting to repeal Ventura  
County's Campaign Finance  
Ordinance?

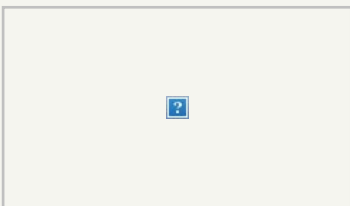


At the last Board of Supervisor's meeting on March 14th, **a majority of the Supervisors (Gorell, Parvin and Long) voted to repeal our County's Campaign Finance Ordinance.**

This decision was based on a ["Letter to the Board"](#) generated by the two newly elected Supervisors, Gorell and Parvin. **This Letter was NOT an independent analysis like most reports presented for review and action by the full Board of Supervisors (BOS).**

**We only have 1 more chance for our voices to be heard.**

**A FINAL vote will take place this coming Tuesday, 3/28, agenda item #50 at 10:30**



[Link to informative video](#)

**What do YOU think about more \$\$\$ influencing our local elections?**

**This is what is at stake**

**~ campaign contributions limits would increase from \$750/person to \$5500/person, a 633% increase.**

VC Star Op-Ed, Sunday 3/19

## **Raising limits could lessen public trust**

It didn't take long for the new majority on the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to assert itself and make a clear statement that change is in the air.

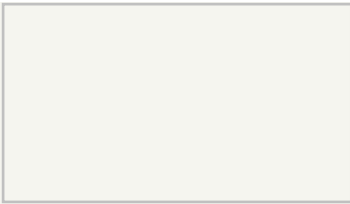
**Less than three months into their new roles, Supervisors Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin asked their colleagues to scrap a 20-year-old county law designed to promote public trust in government by strictly limiting the amount of money that individuals and groups can contribute to candidates for county political offices.**

With the assent of Supervisor Kelly Long, the board voted 3-2 this week to move forward with the idea, and now will take a final vote in two weeks to make the action official. Once that county ordinance is off the books, county elections will be governed by a more permissive state law. **That will mean candidates for county political offices will be able to accept checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial increase over the existing county limit of \$750.**

Those state limits, by the way, are much more generous than federal law. The candidates running for U.S. Senate in California next year will have to abide by federal restrictions that limit contributions to \$2,900. In making their case for the change, Gorell and Parvin write in a letter to the board that the existing limits are excessively low. As a result, they assert, "independent expenditure committees form because candidate committees cannot fundraise what is needed to effectively reach the constituency of their district."

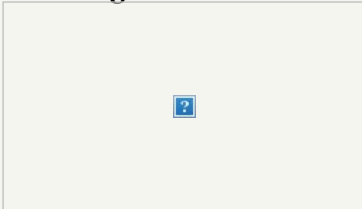
While it is easy to understand the supervisors' frustration with the role of independent expenditure committees, which are outside the control of candidates and can accept and spend unlimited amounts, **the suggestion that the higher state contribution limits will somehow make these groups disappear is puzzling.**

Consider that in last year's election cycle, independent expenditure groups spent nearly \$78 million on state legislative races — campaigns in which every candidate was governed by the same statewide limits



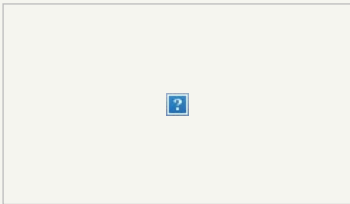
**~ Campaign spending limits would be eliminated.**

**In addition, instead of campaigns being limited to 1 year before the election, contributions could be solicited and made year-round for the entire time the "elected" is in office...creating huge campaign war chests and greater influence from large donors.**



**~ The Ventura County Campaign Finance Ethics Commission would be abolished.**

**~ And finally, Supervisors (Gorell & Parvin) did not campaign on this issue when they ran for office. Voters did not know that electing these Supervisors would immediately result in a repeal of our County's Campaign Finance Ordinance.**



**Even though over 300 written and spoken comments were received, with 97% urging a no vote...Gorell, Parvin and Long voted to repeal our Campaign Finance Ordinance.**

**Big \$\$\$ + Big Donors = MORE campaign mailers (!) and insider influence.**

**Let's fill the Clerk's inbox...and every seat on Tuesday!**

**Email your concerns to the [clerkoftheboard@ventura.org](mailto:clerkoftheboard@ventura.org)**

that would apply going forward in Ventura County.

The biggest spenders were the oil industry, the housing industry and labor unions. Considering the financial stakes these groups have in the regulatory and spending decisions made by government policymakers, they will not be persuaded to refrain from attempting to influence Ventura County voters just because candidates will be able to raise more money on their own.

**There should be no doubt that higher contribution limits will fundamentally change the way campaigns are conducted and financed in Ventura County.** Consider that Supervisor Parvin spent \$162,000 in her successful campaign last fall. Under the existing limits, that means she had to receive contributions from at least 216 supporters. **With the new limits, she could theoretically raise that much at a single dinner with 30 well-heeled contributors.**

Gorell and Parvin did put forth good arguments to make the change — notably the fact that state law has changed over the last 20 years to guard against undue influence from those who contribute to local political campaigns. A new law took effect this year — and, thus, its effect is as yet untested — that prohibits local officials from voting on any project in which the applicant has contributed \$250 or more to their campaigns in the last year.

Given that, they argue, what is the justification for Ventura County's more stringent limits? Perhaps the Ventura County ordinance has indeed outlived its usefulness.

**What was missing in the supervisors' consideration, however, was any sort of independent analysis. The board was presented simply with a letter from the advocates — Gorell and Parvin.** There was no staff analysis that might have examined the pros and cons.

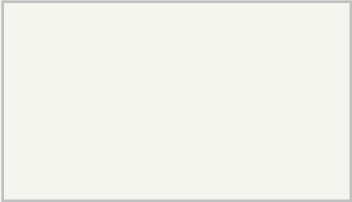
Have independent expenditure committees been less engaged in counties that abide the higher state limits? Has there been a significant difference in the amount candidates have been able to raise and spend per-voter in counties with more stringent limits than the statewide standard, such as San Diego (\$900) or Contra Costa (\$2,500)? Would increasing the Ventura County limits be a better option than just throwing out the law?

There's a new majority on the board, and change is to be expected. **But when change comes, it should happen after issues have been thoroughly and publicly examined. That wasn't the case here. There's still time to make it right.**

**Email your concerns to the [clerkoftheboard@ventura.org](mailto:clerkoftheboard@ventura.org)**  
Subject line: Agenda item #50

**[Link to Board Letter, signed by Gorell and Parvin](#)**

**[Link to County Ordinance 4510 the last codified version. Amendment 4546 made a minor change](#)**  
**<https://www.ventura.org/county-executive-office/clerk-of-the-board/campaign-finance>**



**Attend and speak!**  
**10:30 time certain hearing on**  
**Agenda Item #50**

**This e-mail is easy to share...just forward!**

**VC Star Letter to the Editor - Friday, 3/24 from Oxnard Mayor and 3X Supervisor:**

**Against repeal of finance reform**

In a joint message to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, Oxnard City Councilmember Gabbe Teran and I expressed our opposition to the repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance (Agenda Item 44, March 14, 2023).

From 2008 to 2020, I served three terms on the Board of Supervisors and ran three successful election campaigns — each of which were subject to this ordinance. I firmly believe that this ordinance affords us a more equitable democratic process. The campaign contribution and expenditure limits made running for supervisor more attainable to those who wished to run for the office and represent their community. Contributions from one's family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues are the truest form of grassroots campaign support.

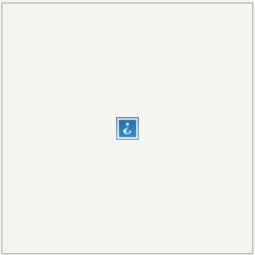
Councilmember Teran and I expressed our concern that the repeal of this ordinance and increasing the contribution limit by over 600% could easily lead to grassroots support being easily — and often — outweighed by larger corporate, special interest, or independently wealthy donors. In a county like Ventura, where we have so many current and future leaders who hail from our many working-class communities, we as elected leaders should be reducing barriers to entering elected public service — not creating more.


Upon reviewing the board meeting attachments and viewing the meeting, I unofficially counted about 265 comments on this item and calculated that approximately 97% voiced opposition to the repeal of this ordinance. Even more encouraging was the fact that every Supervisorial District was well-represented in these comments.

In conclusion, Councilmember Teran and

reform/  
(See Governing Policies near bottom of the screen)

Link to State campaign laws  
<https://www.fppc.ca.gov/media/factsheets.html>



 **SHARE this EMAIL**



I urge the Board of Supervisors to strongly consider their position on this repeal. If there is a desire to change the county's campaign contribution or expenditure limits, we also agree that placing such an initiative before the voters would be a more appropriate approach.

Oxnard Mayor John Zaragoza and Oxnard City Councilmember Gabe Teran

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**Our mailing address is:**  
Camarillo Sustainable Growth  
P.O. Box 782  
Camarillo, CA 93011

[Add us to your address book](#)



**From:** [hulbertjon4@gmail.com](mailto:hulbertjon4@gmail.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:52:26 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

this email is in reference to agenda item 50 no to logging on pine mountain and to keep contributions to supervisor capped at 750 these are moral issues regarding trees that clean our air for the survival of the human race and the corruption of money in politics. let's be good human beings and make our grandparents proud.

**From:** [Iain Coyne](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:17:32 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Supervisors,

As a resident of Ventura County living in Ojai California, I would like to submit my concern for the proposed measure to increase the cap of \$750 on campaign contributions to supervisor candidates to \$5,500. I believe that this will hinder and discourage ordinary citizen candidates and make their campaigns much harder. This measure does not support accurate representation of the people of our county, so I hope that you reconsider agenda item 50 and not increase the campaign donation cap.

Thank you for your time,

Iain Coyne



**From:** [Ian Campbell](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item 50 3/28/23 Board Meeting  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:01:13 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

As a resident and voter in Ventura county, I vehemently oppose item #50, the Repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. This attempted repeal is not in the best interest of the county and its residents, and can only be the result of corruption or extreme ignorance. The argument that we should simply just go with whatever the State of California decides about campaign finance law due to their resources of oversight and enforcement does not address what the current ordinance does in addition to the State's laws. If we repeal this ordinance, we will lose not just the \$750 expenditure cap, but also the expenditure limits that level the playing field for candidates by making sure that one well-funded candidate cannot outspend their fellow candidates and provide a reasonable amount that is adjusted for Cost of Living increases. Additionally, the transparency into the economic interest and donors of independent expenditure committees that make large donations will be thrown away. To top it off, the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) itself allows "a local jurisdiction [to] enact a campaign ordinance that provides for additional or different campaign requirements for committees active exclusively in its jurisdiction as long as the provisions are *stricter* than those in the Act." If we get rid of Ventura County's Campaign Finance reform ordinance, we will definitively be loosening our requirements.

Supervisors Parvin and Gorell, I trust that you already know these facts that I have listed above. I cannot convince you to change your minds about this repeal, but I may reach your hearts. I do not care about a person's political party or abstract ideology, only that they recognize the humanity within themselves and others. Do not go forward with this repeal, even if you think it may help your future campaigns or your donors' businesses and profits. It will not only corrupt our government even further, but also corrupt and damage yourselves. This time of many interconnected crises on our planet and within our County calls for solidarity and friendship, not greed and division. If you truly believe in your roles as representatives of community, you will strengthen our campaign finance provisions, not weaken them. There are many countries on this Earth that subsidize their own elections, and give equal media time to all candidates. Look to their examples to strive for a better democracy in our own community. And do not condone the Supreme Courts decisions on campaign finance. We have all seen the damage they have done. Be the better governmental body.

And for the love of whatever speaks to you most, please do not coopt the struggles of the working class by saying you need to repeal this ordinance in order to pay your campaign staff a living wage. You will be increasing the amount you may receive if this repeal passes, but you will not be guaranteeing that that money goes to those working for you. And you should hold your responsibility to pay your workers a living wage first, above your own selfish campaign. Or do you truly not care about those you supposedly represent at all? Do you not care about me, my neighbors, friends, and family? Make no mistake, we see you, and we have plenty of time until the next supervisor's election (ahem, Supervisor Long) to organize other voters and make sure that you are wasting your time with this repeal, regardless of how much money you

spend on your selfish campaigns.

**Sincerely,  
Ian Thomas Campbell**

**From:** [J B](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [Lopez, Vianey](#)  
**Subject:** VC Supervisors" Meeting 3/28, Agenda Item 44  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 6:54:59 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Clerk of the Court, regarding agenda item 44

I am writing to encourage the supervisors to maintain campaign donation limits and not rescind the current ones because our elections should be democratic, that is, based on honest and fair information and not on the greatest amount of money spent..

It is clear that the Supervisors Gorell's and Parvin's proposal attempts to benefit Supervisor Long's next election, where the voters are not in support of her (as she has voted in support of oil interests rather than the actual constituents there).

Oil and other special interest groups should not be allowed to buy our elections.,

Please reject agenda item 44, which is clearest not in the best interests of the voters.

Sincerely,  
J. Brown  
1223 Owens Ave., Ventura, CA

**From:** [Jackie](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:51:17 AM

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3/27/23

**To the Clerk of the Board and the Board of Supervisors,**

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed resolution under Item 50, which seeks to repeal the **Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance**. As a concerned citizen and voter, I believe that this ordinance has helped ensure that special interests and money do not unduly influence our local elections since its inception in 2003. This ordinance has fostered a culture of transparency and fairness in our local elections.

I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Reform Ordinance in place and, if necessary, revise it with more discussion to update the amount slightly to maintain fairness and not exclude ordinary citizens to have their voices heard.

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

Sincerely,  
Jackie Dougherty  
Pt. Hueneme, CA

**From:** [James Cooper](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:15:44 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I request that you reject changing the Campaign Finance Donation Limit of \$5,500.00 and keep the current limit of \$750.00 in place. It is important to keep outside business interests, and particularly the fossil fuel industry, out of our local politics. As local representatives you should be representing the interests of the local community and receiving large amounts of campaign financing from outside business interests will only serve to have you advocate for policies advantageous to the fossil fuel industry at the expense of the health and well being of your constituents. Remember whom you are elected to represent and reject the proposed increase in Campaign Finance Donation Limit.

Regards,  
James Cooper  
Phone: (805) 798-7226  
Email: [jcooperojai@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jcooperojai@sbcglobal.net)

**From:** [merrilly@verizon.net](mailto:merrilly@verizon.net)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:21:19 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Esteemed Clerk of the Board and Members of the Board of Supervisors.

I strongly oppose the proposed change to campaign finance rules agendized as item 50.

How would this proposal improve grassroots engagement? Whom would it benefit? What could the possible motivation to shift electoral advantage towards deeper-pocketed donors be?

You will be remembered for your choice on this item.

Sincerely,

James A. Merrill, he/him  
Oxnard, California

**From:** [Jane Sievert](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:17:47 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As a Ventura home owner, and longtime resident, I strongly urge you to continue to support the cap of \$750 for campaign contributions.

Ventura County is a special place because it has a small town feel, clean air and beaches. Local residents are involved in our community, and should remain so.

Allowing big money to dictate the outcome of elections by dumping insane amounts of cash into the political process (at a local level!) is not the solution! And will result in industrial pollution, no regard for our water situation, as well as paving over our remaining green space.

Please allow the political process to be open to all, without big business (the Swap!) taking over our special town.

Thank you,  
Jane Sievert  
521 Frances St  
Ventura CA 93003

**From:** [Janice SCHROECK](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:16:47 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Subject: Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to urge you to stand up for democracy by not repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance ensures that all voices are heard and that our elections are fair and transparent.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,  
Janice and Roland Schroeck



**From:** [Jay Escover](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** \$750 contributions rule  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 2:34:55 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am against repealing this rule of \$750 limit for individual campaign donations.

I feel this will favor special interest groups who are able to make larger contributions & dilute the contributions made by the average citizen.

J. Escover  
91360

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Jeff Welch](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:00:13 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

TO SUBMIT COMMENTS TO THE SUPERVISORS ON THIS TOPIC – please send an email to – [clerkoftheboard@ventura.org](mailto:clerkoftheboard@ventura.org). Please be sure to mention agenda item 50, or your comments may not be counted. Ask that the campaign donations cap of \$750 not be changed, and add that county staff prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500. The deadline for your comments is 10:00 a.m. Tuesday March 28 th .

Sirs,

Please add my voice to stop the Campaign donation cap from being changed. Please keep the cap at a max of \$750. Please prepare an analysis of the proposal to increase the cap to \$5500.

Thank you ....Jeff Welch, Ojai 8056462652

**From:** [Jen Em](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Measure to Repeal Current campaign Finance Rules  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 3:54:16 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

We are 31-year residents of Simi Valley and urge a NO vote on the campaign finance repeal measure currently before the Ventura County Board of Supervisors. As our elected officials, it is your duty to quash efforts by outside or special interest influence, and keeping the limit at \$750 is one way to do that. Raising it to \$5500 would be a vote to tell Ventura County residents that the voices of those who can afford to donate \$5500 to a campaign matter more than other citizens' voices. Let's keep special interest money OUT! We urge you all to do the right thing.

- Jennifer and Doug Maske

**From:** [Jennifer Eggertsen](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:11:07 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

As a concerned resident of Ventura County, I am writing to urge you to vote against the resolution under item 50 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. Since 2003, this ordinance has successfully ensured that everyone has an equal say in our local elections, regardless of their financial resources. It incentivizes candidates to prioritize the public's interests and concerns.

The current trend of wealthy & corporate interests dumping millions of dollars into campaigns has already caused enormous 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 public - your voters. These wealthy donors & corporations can and will drown out the voices of ordinary citizens by voting no.

Please let us know you care about Ventura County residents and vote against the resolution to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. Uphold the values of fairness and transparency in our local elections.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeniver Eggertsen  
Ventura County resident

**From:** [Jenny Marek](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:36:38 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for doing the work you do. I love our community and appreciate people who do the hard work of leading it.

I am concerned about the possible reform to the campaign finance ordinance. I think limits on campaign spending help level the playing field so that people like me look to sources like debates, campaign statements, and news/radio articles to evaluate the candidates values and priorities. With increased campaign spending, we will all be barraged by advertising that can be confusing, misleading, and makes me feel like we are much more divided as a community than we actually are.

I think more campaign spending is harmful to the elections process and urge you to be very cautious when considering any increases.

Thank you again for the hard work you do on behalf of our community.

Sincerely,  
Jenny Marek

Ventura, CA

**From:** [Jerry George](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:59:50 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am requesting that item 50 regarding changing cap on campaign donations is voted NO on to keep transparency on election day.

Jerry George, 125 south Pueblo Avenue, ojai California 93023

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [jim.yarbrough](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 9:37:38 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Keep ALL the old rules for limiting campaign contributions in Ventura County. Do NOT change ANY of the old limits.

Supervisors Gorrell, Parvin, and Long are clearly biased against the people of Ventura County, and unjustly favor big-money, special interests. People of Ventura County, take note! Never vote for any of these three people again for public office!

Jim Yarbrough Newbury Park, CA

**From:** [Jo Ann Marruffo](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** AGENDA ITEM #50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 3:23:16 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

## VOTE NO!

At the last Board of Supervisor's meeting on March 14th, a majority of the Supervisors (Gorell, Parvin and Long) voted to repeal our County's Campaign Finance Ordinance - a 20-year-old county law designed to promote public trust in government by strictly limiting the amount of money that individuals and groups can contribute to candidates for county political offices. The final vote on March 28, 2023 could make the action official. Once that county ordinance is off the books, county elections will be governed by a more permissive state law. That will mean candidates for county political offices will be able to accept checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial increase over the existing county limit of \$750.

The campaign contribution and expenditure limits made running for supervisor more attainable to those who wished to run for the office and represent their community. Contributions from one's family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues are the truest form of grassroots campaign support.

I am concerned that the repeal of this ordinance and increasing the contribution limit by over 600% could easily lead to grassroots support being easily — and often — outweighed by larger corporate, special interest, or independently wealthy donors. In a county like Ventura, where we have so many current and future leaders who hail from our many working-class communities, we as elected leaders should be reducing barriers to entering elected public service — not creating more.

Also, missing in the supervisors' consideration, however, was any sort of independent analysis. The board was presented simply with a letter from the advocates — Gorell and Parvin. There was no staff analysis that might have examined the pros and cons.

In addition, Oxnard Mayor John Zaragoza (and 3 times County Supervisor) and Gabe Teran, Oxnard City Council member reviewed the board meeting attachments and viewed the meeting. They unofficially counted about 265 comments on this item and calculated that approximately 97% voiced opposition to the repeal of this ordinance. Even more encouraging was the fact that every Supervisorial District was well-represented in these comments. They concur and strongly urge the Board of Supervisors to strongly consider their position on this



repeal. If there is a desire to change the county's campaign contribution or expenditure limits, they recommend that placing such an initiative before the voters would be a more appropriate approach.

STRONGLY RECOMMEND VOTE NO UNTIL SOME SORT OF INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS IS MADE AND/OR BROUGHT TO THE PEOPLE OF VENTURA COUNTY FOR VOTE.

--

**Jo Ann Marruffo**

117 CALLE TAMEGA

CAMARILLO, CA 93012

**From:** [Joanne Coville](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:08:47 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,  
I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the resolution under item 50 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. The current ordinance has been in place since 2003 and has been effective in preventing special interests and money from unduly influencing our local elections.

One of the things that I particularly appreciate about being a resident of Ventura County is that we have a system which does not automatically make it impossible for someone with limited financial means to run for office. The limitation on campaign contributions makes it easier for anyone with good ideas and the urge to participate run for political office. If the contribution limits are raised, we become just like everyone else, prey to the wishes of the wealthy. 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. As I understand, the Board has not done an analysis of the consequences of changing the ordinance, but just voted to do it. I expect more thoughtful and analytical response to changing something that has apparently worked well for 20 years.

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.


**Joanne Coville**  
[joannecoville@gmail.com](mailto:joannecoville@gmail.com)  
**805-479-5657**

**From:** [Jody Brown](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Subject: Item No. 50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 4:35:15 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

As a concerned Ventura County resident, I am urging the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to object to the repeal of Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance. For two decades, Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign finance rules — prioritizing accountability and transparency and allowing grassroots funded candidates to compete. If the Ventura County Board of Supervisors repeals Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance this will dilute the power of local, grassroots activists and give more opportunities for special interests — like oil and developers — to buy influence in our local policy. This is a huge step backward from moving towards a healthy democracy rooted in transparency and accountability. I urge you to reject this repeal and listen to the vast majority of Americans who want less money in political campaigns.



**Jody Brown** | Archives Data Analyst | Patagonia Archives  
[259 W. Santa Clara St., Ventura, CA 93001](#)  
Pronouns: [she](#)|[her](#)|[hers](#)

**From:** [Johanna Olofsson](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:20:15 AM

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Hi!

My name is Johanna Olofsson and I'm a Ventura resident who would like to voice my strong opposition to Agenda item 50 to raise the campaign donations cap to \$5,500. I ask that the campaign donation cap of \$750 not be changed and that county staff prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap.

Kind regards  
Johanna

**From:** [John Breuker Jr](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Please Include My Comments for the Record - Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:07:05 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I support this proposal to modernize the campaign finance rules for the county. It is a modest proposal that brings us in line with many other counties, and with state law. It allows people to support candidates of their choosing on both sides of the aisle. Let's stop the insulting selective outrage about money in politics, and instead, move forward with this sensible proposal.

John Breuker  
District 3 Resident

**From:** [John Brooks](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [LaVere, Matt](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 7:25:25 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board Members Gorrell, Long & Parvin ,

I suppose as I type this to you asking you to reverse your vote for the good of the county instead of your own political futures you will ignore me as you did all the others prior to your first vote. Shame on you. Seriously. I think you might consider your legacy even if you aren't as old as I am.

YOU WON WITH THE CURRENT RULES.

Did you forget?

Please wake up in the name of good governance and vote No .

Thank you .

John Brooks

Oak View.

**From:** [John Edkins](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** my opposition to change in campaign donation cap  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 1:37:37 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

The proposed change to the cap on campaign donations - Ventura Co Board agenda item 50 - from \$750 to \$5,500 is clearly a ploy to influence the election of Board members by big money interests, and put ordinary citizens at a monetary disadvantage. The County staff should prepare an analysis of this proposed change, as it very likely would negatively impact the environmental quality of the County in favor of Big Oil interests, while reducing the voice of the general populace. Thank you.

John Edkins  
Goleta, CA

**Please be sure to mention agenda item 50 (or your comments may not be counted.)  
Ask that the campaign donations cap of \$750 not be changed, and add that county staff  
prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500**

**From:** [John Hankins](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** agenda item 50 for Tuesday March 28  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 9:57:21 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Do NOT change the cap of \$750 on campaign donations.  
Haven't we all got sick of horrendous amounts of money funding politicians and wanna-bes? Doesn't it make you cringe?

Maybe not if your candidate or issue is piling in the dough, eh?  
But you're supposed to be looking out for ALL citizens under your jurisdiction, no matter rich or poor.

Quite the jump you're proposing from \$750 to \$5,500. Inflation? You can't justify that.

And have you or staff investigated the ramifications?

No.

Tell you what, the supervisors who approve of this huge jump will reap what they sow eventually, you will have a stain on your reputation, but perhaps you don't care as long as special interests with large pocketbooks contribute to your campaign. It WILL be a campaign topic.

Thanks to the two supervisors who still have a bit of sense for their constituents.

--

**John (Hankins)**  
**County News Service**  
**editor, Condor Call, Sierra Club**  
**(805) 452-2885c**



**From:** [paladinesq@aol.com](mailto:paladinesq@aol.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50. Campaign donations cap of \$750 should not be increased.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 2:01:55 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Board Of Supervisors:

The donation cap of \$750 for Board Of Supervisors campaigns should not be increased.

Regular citizens should be able to campaign for Board Of Supervisor seats or elections without larger political donations.

The County staff should prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500.

John Paladin. 661 255 5000.

PaladinEsq@AOL.com

Box 801777, Valencia, CA 91380

## Statement in Opposition to Repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance

It appears the Ventura County Board of Supervisors will vote on a repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance (item 50 on the agenda for the meeting of 28 March 2023) proposed by Supervisors Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin and itemized on the agenda by Gorell, Parvin and Kelly Long.

It always amazes me that when I am out and about people confide to me that they think that politicians are just too encumbered by expectations and regulations concerning campaign finance. If only politicians could act freely with minimal restrictions. After all history indicates that campaign finance has always been free of irresponsible acts and corruption. People also say that there is just too little money in politics. There should be much more. Allowing for more money in politics would be wildly popular.

Political office is one of those professions that everyone holds in the highest regard. Its up there with firefighters, nurses, pet advocates, and angels (there are two basic classes).

I thought I would include that statistics indicate the number of people who contribute \$2900 or more to campaigns are listed in fractions of a percent but it seems that there might be little interest in that. It is likely that the number of those who would contribute \$5500 would be a much smaller fraction. I do not have the resources that the staff of the Ventura County Supervisors have for research and since the County Supervisors have not procured a study about the effects of the ordinance repeal, I will not bother to list research statistics either.

I hope the readers of this note enjoy the attempt at sarcasm within and if the local government makes more thoughtful and careful decisions like the repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance there will be much more to follow.

Jon Huycke  
Oxnard

### Reference:

Open Secrets. (n. d.). Donor Demographics. <https://www.opensecrets.org/elections-overview/donor-demographics>. Accessed 26 March 2023.

**From:** [Josh Bolton](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:03:14 PM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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.

**From:** [Kap Young](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Already too much money in local politics  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:05:03 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Sir or Madame,

I am deeply disturbed by the attempt to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.

I oppose this Agenda item #50, which increases the contribution limit by over **600%** and could easily lead to grassroots support being seriously — and often — outweighed by larger corporate, special interest, or independently wealthy donors. These powerful groups will be able to support their own candidates for county political offices with checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial and considerable increase over the existing county limit of \$750.

As far as I know, there has been **NO** independent analysis of the impact of this proposed repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. This is an unconscionable oversight on the part of the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,

Kap Young  
1511 Oneida Pl  
Oxnard

**From:** [Karen Abrahams](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Repeal of campaign contribution limit  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 2:38:50 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Bad idea - **the limit should be retained** to protect voters from the influence of special interest groups and individuals with deep pockets. It just would not be fair !

--

THousand Oaks Resident for past 35 years.

**From:** [Karen Hesli](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** campaign donations  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 8:24:23 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors

**Regarding agenda item 50**

**My name is Karen Hesli and i live in Ojai, California for the past 40+ years.**

**would like to request that current regulations for campaign donations remain capped at \$750. I would be very disappointed for 'big money' to enter our local politics by changing the cap increase to \$5500. please vote no!!**

**Thank you,**

**Sincerely,**

**Karen Hesli**

**805 804 7446**

**From:** [Karen Long](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** AGAINST repealing \$750 campaign contribution limit  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 3:05:35 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Sir,

Please communicate to the Board of Supervisors that we are against repealing the \$750 campaign contribution limit. We do not want special interests to get a stronger voice in our county's politics, simply because they have deeper pockets than the average resident. Thank you!

John and Karen Long  
972 Via Heraldo  
Newbury Park, CA 91320

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Karen Proffitt](#)  
To: [rumreggae@protonmail.com](#)  
Subject: [rumreggae](#)  
Date: Saturday, March 25, 2023 8:17:44 AM

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**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  
I would like to voice my opposition to the raising of the donation cap. Please keep the current cap in place.  
e.g. Meeting 3/28/2023 Agenda No. 50 Keep the \$750 current campaign donations cap in place.  
Thank you, Karen Proffitt

Karen Proffitt  
Rum Reggae  
805 649 4820  
[https://protect.checkpoint.com/v2/\\_\\_\\_\\_YzJ1OmNvdnF2YWShbjpOm86M2E1NTE3ZGE5MjkxYmU3MGQxYjAwZiY2YzZGlxYmM6NjplNzg5OjNhZjZiYTJmNDc4Y2M0MjAxMGY1YWVhbnRlbnQ5OTQyOTI3OTE2MmY6dDpU](https://protect.checkpoint.com/v2/____YzJ1OmNvdnF2YWShbjpOm86M2E1NTE3ZGE5MjkxYmU3MGQxYjAwZiY2YzZGlxYmM6NjplNzg5OjNhZjZiYTJmNDc4Y2M0MjAxMGY1YWVhbnRlbnQ5OTQyOTI3OTE2MmY6dDpU)



**From:** [Karen Prough](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item #50 @ 10:30  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 12:51:19 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Re: Repeal of Campaign Finance Ordinance

It is very suspicious that the newly elected officials are attempting to change the campaign finance rules  
I have read no plausible explanation in its favor. It only encourages inappropriate moneys from wealthier donors and prevents less prosperous candidates. Shame on you

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [karen.wilburn](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** AGAINST REPEAL OF THE CAMPAIGN LIMITS  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 9:39:56 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am totally against this. It's a power grab by those who can afford to make large donations. Any change should be put to a vote before the people.

Karen Wilburn  
213-216-1937

**From:** [Kari Aist](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 11:18:35 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Board of Supervisors of Ventura County:

As a voting resident of Ventura County, I vehemently object to the repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance! I think it is extremely unethical for Board members to vote to allow special interests to essentially buy the outcomes of elections for seats on the Board.

You were elected to represent *equally and fairly* the best interests of *all* residents of this county, not just the wealthier ones. Repealing that ordinance would unfairly skew campaigns in favor of special interests, with money flooding to their candidates, and remove the balance of power the restrictions have at least attempted to maintain.

Hundreds of people have let you know they do not support your repeal of these stringent campaign restrictions. Hundreds!--very nearly 100% of all those who have communicated with you on this matter. Take heed of the wishes of the people, and if you really want to seek change on this matter, let the electorate vote on the matter. But do not yourselves vite to repeal it--you do not have the moral authority to do that.

Sincerely and earnestly--  
Kari Aist  
8892 Tacoma Street  
Ventura, CA 93004

--

Pronouns: she, her  
805-323-6063  
8892 Tacoma Street, Ventura 93004

"Believe with all your heart that how you live your life makes a difference" - Colin Beavan

**From:** [Karla Olson](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:38:38 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

**Please do not change the cap of campaign donations at \$750 not be changed. More will give undue influence to the oil industry.**

Karla Olson  
Patagonia  
Publisher, Books  
(760)840-9552 (cell)

**From:** [krselm@alumni.unca.edu](mailto:krselm@alumni.unca.edu)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item #50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:03:11 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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Supervisors,

I am writing to urge you to oppose item #50. Ventura county had effective campaign finance laws up until now. The repeal would allow for big monied interests to have a larger influence over our elections. It is hard enough for the will of the community to be heard. Please do not vote to do away with existing campaign contribution limits.

Thank you,

Kat Selm

Thousand Oaks

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kate Faulkner](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #50: I OPPOSE any change to the County campaign finance regulations  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 8:27:16 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

The arguments for change make no sense.

Voters are not stupid nor are we persuaded that Supervisors need more money from wealthy donors.

Three Supervisors are trying to pull a fast one on voters. They did not campaign for campaign finance reform. They did not analyze the impact of campaign finance reform. They should be ashamed and we voters will remember.

Sincerely,  
Kate Faulkner  
Ventura, CA

**From:** [Frieda Gough](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 3:24:42 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am one of many citizens who prefer that the Board not be overly influenced by oil interests. To that end, I ask that financial cap for campaign donations remain at \$750.

Also, only a rigorous review could even suggest that the cap be even higher.

I am a 20 year resident of Ventura County.

Yours,

Katharine Pond

**From:** [kay](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 6:44:18 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Gorell and Pavin are attempting to make a move to eliminate the county's current campaign finance ordinance, and all of its protections. Who are these NEW supervisors attempting to change something that has worked for 20 years in Ventura County??? The average citizen's voice will be DROWED OUT by big money donors that are NOT reflecting the current will of the people in Ventura County. Up to this point Ventura County has kept this area a special place to live. 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 citizen over special interests as well as protecting the most disadvantaged. THIS IS THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE which has spoken for the past 20 YEARS in Ventura County. Gorell and Pavins argument is very weak and easy to see right through as to their true intent with this latest suggested move, stating that state law and the county law cannot both apply simultaneously yet 25 OTHER COUNTIES ARE DOING SO. IT IS VITAL that we CONTINUE to decrease influence of big money in our elections.

THIS CHANGE SIMPLY CAN NOT STAND!

Sincerely,

Katharine S Simmons

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



**From:** [G & K](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item no. 50, cap on campaign expenditures, March 28, 2023  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:17:16 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am strongly against the unexpected move by Oil Power's newly elected slim majority on the all important local Ventura County Board of Supervisors. Oil activities are enjoying record profits, and their shareholders want to cut off attempts to extract at will, despite numerous feedback from Ventura County residents in favor of limiting damaging air, water, leaks, and inadequate compensation for damages.

Please undo this outrageous attempt to set the table to buy supervisorial seats.

Katherine Erickson, OakView, CA

**From:** [steve lipson](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Finance reform ordinance  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 7:35:29 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am deeply disturbed by the attempt to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.

I oppose this Agenda item #50, which increases the contribution limit by over **600%** and could easily lead to grassroots support being seriously — and often — outweighed by larger corporate, special interest, or independently wealthy donors. These powerful groups will be able to support their own candidates for county political offices with checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial and considerable increase over the existing county limit of \$750.

As far as I know, there has been **NO** independent analysis of the impact of this proposed repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. This is an unconscionable oversight on the part of the Board of Supervisors.

Katherine Lipson  
134 South Kalorama Street  
Ventura, CA. 93001

**EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.****EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

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March 26, 2023

Ventura County Board of Supervisors

800 S. Victoria Avenue

Ventura, Ca 93003

Attn: Clerk of the Board

Re: Second Public Hearing Regarding Adoption of an Ordinance Amendment for Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. HEARD ON MARCH 14, 2023, ITEM NO. 44

The **League of Women Voters of Ventura County** requests the Board of Supervisors delay the vote on the repeal of the current Campaign Finance Ordinance.

A repeal would remove the current contribution limits and replace it with a much greater amount determined by the state. It would also eliminate the existing oversight provisions that ensure transparency and fairness and combat corruption and undue influence in local government. Should the ordinance be adopted Ventura County will relinquish local control to the state control over our county elections with little consideration for local concerns.

Though it may be appropriate to review the existing ordinance, a repeal without public discussion is cause for the League to step forward and request an independent staff analysis of the proposal that includes a comparison of provisions rather than the current overview provided in the March 14 Board letter. We also ask that any review amending the existing ordinance include the comparison between appropriate provisions such as the amount allowed for expenditures, the amount of personal loans permitted, contributions to defense funds, and penalty for laundering funds. The Ventura County limits on these additional expenditures are much more stringent than the State's limits and should be readily available to the public.

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the methods of financing political campaigns should:

Enhance political equality for all citizens; protect representative democracy from being distorted by big spending in election campaigns; ensure transparency and the public's right to know who is using money to influence elections; enable candidates to compete equitably for public office; ensure that candidates have sufficient funds to communicate their messages to the public; and combat corruption and undue influence in government.

The League further believes that governmental bodies have an obligation and duty to protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible. The Board action to repeal the current campaign finance ordinance has not had sufficient public discussion for adoption on March 28, 2023.

The League of Women Voters has a storied history of speaking out for citizens' voting rights and expanding the public's participation in how they are governed. We only take positions on actions by our government when we feel there may be a denial of those rights. Delaying your vote will allow for a thorough and transparent review to assure voters that the process has been democratic and representative of Ventura County.

Kathy Morgan

President, League of Women Voters of Ventura County

**From:** [Sally Hibbitts](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance 3/28/23  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:33:54 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

**Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,**

**We are voters in Ventura County, and we 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 us.**

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

**Thank you for your attention.**

**Sincerely,**

Kenneth and Sara Hibbitts  
3119 W. Adirondack Ct.  
Westlake Village, 91362

**From:** [ca.avoking@gmail.com](mailto:ca.avoking@gmail.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:34:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [campaign limit.docx](#)

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Please accept the attached letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding Item #50 on Tuesday's agenda.

Thanks,

Kevin Cannon  
Santa Rosa Valley resident

**From:** [Kim Charnofsky](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Again - Vote No on Item 50 on Tuesday  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 12:12:08 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board,

Please - vote no on item 50 on Tuesday. The hope of the people of the County is that our system reduces barriers to participation in our democracy, and this will make it harder for the "average" person to have a chance, and easier for the wealthy and special interest groups to leverage their power. Not fair.

Please vote no.

Thank you.

Kim Charnofsky

**From:** [Kitty Merrill](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [District5](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 4:51:12 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

As a longtime resident of Oxnard, and a regular voter in Ventura County, I am deeply concerned about the possibility of repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance is critical to preventing corruption in our elections and ensuring that wealthy special interests do not compromise our democracy.

Please do not repeal this important ordinance and continue to protect the integrity of our elections in Ventura County.

Sincerely,

Kitty Merrill

4411 Beaumont Ave.

Oxnard, CA 93033

**From:** [Kristen Kessler](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on agenda item #50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 7:35:45 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Supervisors,

I write to ask that you do not repeal the current campaign contribution limit of \$750. It is suspicious to me that Supervisors Gorell and Parvin want to change a system that has worked fine until now. They were both able to win their seats using the current system. We all know that elections are not easy to finance. However, your jobs shouldn't be easy. Public office requires accountability. I don't see how you can show the same level of accountability to your constituents if the current contribution limits are increased. I urge you to keep local elections fair for all, not just the wealthy.

Thank you,  
Kristen Kessler  
East Ventura



**From:** [Laura Gulovsen](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item #50 @ 10:30  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 7:15:13 PM

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Re: Repeal of Campaign Finance Ordinance

Another vote that the majority of the citizens disagree on. Have you no guilty feelings? Shame on you for putting money first.

Sent from my iPhone M Laura Gulovsen Ventura, Ca. I have lived in Ventura since 1949 but not happy to see these unneeded changes.

**From:** [Laura Wells](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50 Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:13:47 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

--

**Laura Wells,**  
**Resident of Ventura County**  
ACLU Volunteer Supporter

**From:** [Lauri Lord](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item #50 @ 10:30  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 1:35:32 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Re: Repeal of Campaign Finance Ordinance

Do not repeal the Campaign Finance Ordinance. Ventura County does not need or want the influence of rich people making decisions about our lives in Ventura County. This is just a stepping stone for these Board members, who I did not vote for. What's next? Will our open space be confiscated by the self-interests of Gorell, Parvin and Long and sold off to developers? I suspect so. There needs to be a thorough examination of what the results will be before any decision is made. Do not let Ventura County be taken over by those who could care less about our best interests.

Very truly yours,

Lauri Lord  
Camarillo

**From:** [Leah Kolt](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Re Board of Supervisors repeal of campaign finance regulation  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:35:53 AM

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It seems entirely self-serving for the board to repeal this ordinance without a proper independent analysis.

Allowing higher limits encourages supervisors to respond less to the constituents they were elected to serve and more to wealthy donors and corporate interests.

I hope the supervisors supporting this step backwards will reconsider and avoid appearing to be owned by moneyed interests.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Leah Kolt  
Camarillo

**From:** [Lee Gummerman](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:37:36 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. The Ordinance has given protection to ordinary citizens from being overwhelmed by special interest money in our local elections. I don't understand why this protection should be weakened, just because California law provides higher limits.

Thank you for your time and attention, and for protecting fair representation of all citizens in funding our elections.

Sincerely,

Lee Gummerman  
Camarillo

**From:** [leslie@thebennetts.com](mailto:leslie@thebennetts.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Please don't raise the campaign contribution  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:44:24 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors,

The campaign shouldn't be about who has the most money wins. We want the best person for the job to take office. Very often when campaign contributions are raised its special interests who get involved not the people who live in the county. But corporations who have the most to gain if they have a supervisor in their pocket. Please don't have greedy corporations electing our candidates.

Leslie Bennett  
Moorpark

**From:** [Leslie Tobin Bacon](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50, mtg. March 28  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 4:43:06 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I respectfully wish to make my objection to the proposed change in cap of contribution to Supervisors campaign. There is only one reason for the this change, and it is so the larger monied business, organisations, real estate developers, etc can make a larger investment in candidates then Ventura County citizens. The extra funds are unnecessary and the Supervisors should spend their time on actually meeting their constituents, rather than looking for larger donations from the non voting business concerns.

Leslie Tobin Bacon, Ojai CA

**From:** [Linda and Darryl Easter](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 4:28:15 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

We are deeply disturbed by the attempt to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.

We oppose this Agenda item #50, which increases the contribution limit by over 600% and could easily lead to grassroots support being seriously — and often — outweighed by larger corporate, special interest, or independently wealthy donors. These powerful groups will be able to support their own candidates for county political offices with checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial and considerable increase over the existing county limit of \$750.

As far as we know, there has been NO independent analysis of the impact of this proposed repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. This is an unconscionable oversight on the part of the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,

Linda Easter  
Darryl Easter



**From:** [lindaatthebeach1@gmail.com](mailto:lindaatthebeach1@gmail.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Opposed item #44  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 1:58:50 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ms. Gonzalez,

I am opposed to #44 which would eliminate the counties campaign ordinance and all of its protections.

Thank you,

Linda Kay Fisher

**From:** [Lisa Schilpp Gasaway](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 4:12:28 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

As a voter in Ventura County, I am writing to express my concern over the possible repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. If this ordinance is repealed, it will open the door for special interests and deep pockets to dominate our elections, drowning out the voices of ordinary citizens in our County.

I urge you to stand with the people of Ventura County and protect the integrity of our elections.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Gasaway  
805.889.0063

**From:** [Lisa H](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item no. 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:47:35 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

As a long standing Ventura County resident, I am requesting the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to **object** to the repeal of Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance.

Repealing the campaign finance ordinance will destroy the power of local, grassroots activists by giving more power to special interest groups, like oil companies and developers, to **buy** influence to local policy that may not be in the best interest of our county residents.

This is a large step backwards. Please, please, please reject this repeal. Allowing for large contributions into political campaigns does not level the playing field at all. It worsens it tremendously.

Please act on our behalf to keep this campaign finance ordinance in place.

Thank you  
Lisa

**From:** [Lisa Marie Ruiz](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [Lopez, Vianey](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 44, Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:11:00 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Clerk of the Board,

I am sending this email to address Agenda Item 44, Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. I beseech you to please vote against this agenda item as it is unfair, anti-democratic and denies a level election process for those with limited funding who desire to engage in the political arena and public service.

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 bald-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,  
Lisa Marie Ruiz

**From:** [Lisa Shirley](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** March 28th Item No. 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 8:06:08 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I oppose this item. It will allow wealthy doners and businesses to control our Board of Supervisors. Power must remain in the hands of the people.

**From:** [Liza Diniakos](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#)  
**Cc:** [matt.levere@ventura.org](mailto:matt.levere@ventura.org); [Lopez, Vianey](#); [Long, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item: Second Public Hearing Regarding Adoption of an Ordinance Amendment for Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:56:38 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Supervisor Gorell and Supervisor Parvin,  
Can you Compromise?

Keep in mind that you are now public servants rather than candidates. Is this proposal really how you want to put your best foot forward and show the community what your priorities are as new supervisors?

Please show true leadership. Demonstrate how you wish to work in a style that values more than your needs.

I've read your arguments in favor of repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance in search of an important point - which is how your proposal would help the county. I couldn't find it.

The only thing your justifications for this proposal appear to address is how it will help you and your future political campaigns. You are suggesting to shift power to donors with the means to donate up to \$5,500 per person to political campaigns, and away from the rest of us. I can understand your enthusiasm about wanting to improve your prospects for future elections. It is so obviously self-serving.

I ask you to think the better of it, withdraw (or compromise) your effort to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance, and focus on the needs and well-being of our county.

(And to all the Supervisors - if Supervisors Gorell and Parvin insist on pushing ahead with their effort to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance, I ask you to please vote no and keep the ordinance in place.)

Get to work for the people of the county.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Diniakos

| | Thousand Oaks, District 4.

**From:** [Lys Martin](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Agenda Item No. 50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 7:02:31 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Correction: Please keep the \$750 current campaign donations cap in place. Thank you,  
Deborah Lys Martin Crawford

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Lys Martin <[touchoflight@mail.com](mailto:touchoflight@mail.com)>  
**Date:** March 25, 2023 at 6:58:35 AM PDT  
**To:** [clerkoftheboard@ventura.org](mailto:clerkoftheboard@ventura.org)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item No. 50

Please keep the \$750 cap on donations in place. Deborah Lys Martin Crawford

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Peg Strobel](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:29:24 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

I have canvassed in elections for Board of Supervisor candidates in many elections. I believe that it's important to enable individual citizens' voices to matter. Maintaining the current Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance is essential to achieving that goal.

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,

Margaret Strobel

Ventura, CA 93003

**From:** [Mari Estrada-Gonzalez](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** AGENDA ITEM 50: CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM ORDINANCE  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 8:17:30 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to ask you to fairly represent democratic principles in Ventura County and vote against the resolution under item 50 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has been effective in limiting the influence private, wealthy, interests can exert in local elections since 2003. Were the ordinance repealed, special interest groups and individual donors would be able to overpower the general public with large contributions to campaigns. To keep local elections honest and transparent, please reject the proposed resolution and keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance in place, protecting our democracy.

Sincerely,

Mari

-----

Mari Estrada-Gonzalez  
[marigonzalez805@gmail.com](mailto:marigonzalez805@gmail.com)

**From:** [maria](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Request to reject the increase of individual campaign contributions  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:39:22 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Ventura Board of Supervisors:

As a long time resident of Ventura County, residing in Thousand Oaks I implore the Board to reject the monetary limit increase for individual campaign contributions from the current \$750 to be increased to \$5,500.

This increase to \$5,500 for individual campaign contributions would allow special interest groups whom are able to contribute this large a contribution would dilute the contributions made by the average citizen, therefore, allowing those who are able to make these larger contributions (i.e. special interest groups) to influence the decisions that would determine the future of general population of Ventura County residents without proper representation because they are unable to afford a larger contribution.

Thank you  
Maria Shaw  
11 W. Kellly Rd.  
Newbury Park

'you may not change the world for all dogs, but you can change the world for one dog  
- please adopt and alter your pets'

**From:** [Marianne](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 8:11:10 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50, which would repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. As a concerned citizen, I 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. 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,

Marianne Slaughter

1656 Riente St.

Camarillo 93010

**From:** [Marilyn McQuinn](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Opposite to the repeal of campaign finance limits in Ventura County  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:30:44 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I strongly oppose the repeal and the further step toward increasing campaign financing to an outrageous degree.

STOP this egregious maneuver that will benefit certain greedy politicians!

Marilyn McQuinn

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [halvy@west.net](mailto:halvy@west.net)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50 / \$750 Campaign Limit - Keep it  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:06:14 AM

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Mr Clerk (deKlerk?),

Just to be clear, I'm talking about #50 on your agenda.  
Just to be fair, I'm asking you request staff to prepare a report on the proposed change to \$5.5k.

Rgds, halvy  
Homeowner  
Ojai, CA since 1987.  
Ventura since 1985

On 2023-03-25 10:46 am, [halvy@west.net](mailto:halvy@west.net) wrote:

> Hey Clerk,  
> Are you kidding? Don't let supervisors increase the limit. How's a  
> single, 63 year old, low income, enviro surfer liberal supposed to  
> compete with a double income Trumpster household if they can contribute  
> 2 x \$5,500 ?  
>  
> Rgds, Mark Halvorsen  
> Ojai, CA  
> 805 340 4047

**From:** [Jeff and Mary Fuchsman](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Repeal of Campaign Finance Ordinance  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 1:39:29 PM

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Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed increase in campaign contribution limit which results in a repeal of the local campaign finance ordinance. Agenda Item 44, March 14, 2023. The current ordinance has worked very well to make active involvement in the political process accessible to all Ventura County residents.

Elections within the boundaries of the ordinance have been open, active and balanced. Increasing the limit would push many valuable community members out of the process.

Please leave the Campaign Finance Ordinance intact.

Mary L. Ashley  
Resident, Channel Islands Beach, CA

**From:** [Mary Lingua](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [District5](#); [District1](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:07:37 PM

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**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](mailto: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 50, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. As a concerned citizen, living in a rural area , 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.

I have expressed this strong opposition during the last Board of Supervisors Meeting. My concern is even greater when campaign financing has become a priority over more important agenda items. This focus on Campaign finance reform makes it clear that Board members are not listening to the concerns of the general public and individual donors but would rather be beholden to larger donors so they only have to listen to the few. This is a dangerous disregard needs and priorities of constituents

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

Sincerely,

Mary Lingua

Somis 93066



Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)



**From:** [McKenzie Smith](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50 - don't repeal campaign finance ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:20:28 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Supervisors,

As a concerned Ventura County resident, I am urging the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to object to the repeal of Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance (agenda item 50).

For two decades, Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign finance rules — prioritizing accountability and transparency and allowing grassroots funded candidates to compete. If the Ventura County Board of Supervisors repeals Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance this will dilute the power of local communities and constituents and give more opportunities for special interests not affected by issues in our community to buy influence in our local policy.

Repealing the Campaign Finance Ordinance is a huge step backward from moving towards a healthy democracy rooted in transparency and accountability. I urge you to reject this repeal and listen to the vast majority of Americans who want less money in political campaigns.

Thank you,  
McKenzie

**From:** [Megan Sandoval](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Contribution changes  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:08:43 AM

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I am greatly opposed to raising the limit of contributions to campaign contributions. I feel that this puts some candidates at an unfair advantage as backers with possibly larger pockets, can contribute and push a candidate through...more money, bigger campaign. I feel this places some candidates who don't have "big business" behind them, in an unequal playing field.

I am truly sadden by all the changes in the Conejo Valley and Ventura area. The times are changing, but a lot of the peoples voices are being muffled out.

Megan Sandoval

**From:** [Melissa DeStefano](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:50:51 AM

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Hi,

I am writing in regards to agenda item 50, set for vote tomorrow, Tuesday, March 28th at 10:30 a.m. at the County Government Center on Victoria in Ventura.

I am asking that the campaign donations cap of \$750 **NOT be changed**. In addition, I am requesting that county staff prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500.

Please consider my comments.

Sincerely,  
Melissa DeStefano

**From:** [Melissa Mathews](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:59:37 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 50, 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.

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

Sincerely,

Melissa Mathews

**From:** [Michael McKeon](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:14:58 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Please don't sell our county to these dystopian autocratic freaks. With these horrible people we now have in power at the county level our small underpopulated county could get really ugly really quick.

Michael McKeon  
Oxnard  
93036

**From:** [Michael Zierhut](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 2:48:20 PM

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To the Clerk of the Board of the County of Ventura:

I am writing in regards to agenda item 50 and to express my wish that the cap for campaign donations remain at \$750. We need less money in political campaigns, not more. Please prepare an analysis of the effects of increasing the cap to \$5,500 so we at least understand how this will corrupt our politics and weaken citizen input.

Thank you,  
Michael Zierhut  
565 Tico Rd, Ojai, CA 93023  
(805) 798-5590

p.s. I sent this earlier without my address.

**From:** [Michele Quain](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:34:26 PM

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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 50, 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,

Michele Quain  
Ventura County Resident

**From:** [Mihail Milkov](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:56:52 PM

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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 50, 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,

Mihail Milkov



**From:** [Nancy Berry](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 4:00:31 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am asking you to vote NO on increasing the campaign contribution limit for county offices and a full repeal of the local campaign finance ordinance!!!!

Nancy Berry  
Registered Voter of Simi VALley, CA

**From:** [mr.nels@verizon.net](mailto:mr.nels@verizon.net)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item #50 @ 10:30  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 12:14:03 PM

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Re: Repeal of Campaign Finance Ordinance

Voting to repeal the Campaign Finance Ordinance is basically voting to repeal ethics and transparency.

NO!

Nels Norene  
Camarillo CA

**From:** [NOEL ROTH](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Limit Individual Contributions to \$750  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:34:41 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I DEMAND THAT THE SUPERVISORS NOT CHANGE THE \$750 LIMIT ON  
INDIVIDUAL  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO COUNTY SUPERVISORS' ELECTIONS CAMPAIGNS.

Ojai Resident  
Noel Douglas Roth  
999 E. Ojai Ave. #46  
Ojai. 93023

**From:** [Norene Charnofsky](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Vote No on Agenda Item #50 on Tuesday, March 28, 2023  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 6:53:18 PM

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Esteemed Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

Once more, I wish 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!!

WOW, This would give Big Money donors a huge advantage over the average citizen in our County.

I urge you to defeat this ill-conceived proposal, which is scheduled for a vote on Tuesday, March 28, 2023.

If you think this is an issue of importance, you could submit it to the voters of the County. On something so significant, that would seem to be prudent!

Sincerely,  
Norene M. Charnofsky,  
Ventura

**From:** [Norine Fine](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Local Campaign Finance Ordinance  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 1:32:52 PM

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I am against the repeal of the local finance ordinance and do not ant an increase in campaign contributions.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Paddy True](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item #50 @ 10:30  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 5:54:39 PM

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LRe: Repeal of Campaign Finance Ordinance

Repealing this ordinance will lead to more corruption in government. Perhaps that's what Supervisors Gorell, Parvin, and Long would like to see so their big donors can influence our elections?

Listen to the majority of voters. PLEASE DO NOT REPEAL THIS ORDINANCE.

Patricia'Hill-True

**From:** [Pam Holley-Wilcox](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:22:06 AM

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As a resident of Ventura County, I oppose changing the campaign finance rules to allow higher levels of individual donation to campaigns. Elected officials should be accountable to their constituents, not big donors.

Thank you.

**From:** [Pam Knitowski](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:12:45 PM

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**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](mailto: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 50 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance has successfully prevented special interests and money from swaying our local elections for the last 20 years, 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,

Pamela Knitowski Hebel



**From:** [Patricia Ehret](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item No. 50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 5:52:30 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Supervisors of the County of Ventura:

I am deeply disturbed by the attempt to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.

I oppose this Agenda item No. 50, which increases the contribution limit by over **600%** and could easily lead to grassroots support being seriously — and often — outweighed by larger corporate, special interest, or independently wealthy donors. These powerful groups will be able to support their own candidates for county political offices with checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial and considerable increase over the existing county limit of \$750.

As far as I know, there has been NO independent analysis of the impact of this proposed repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. This is an unconscionable oversight on the part of the Board of Supervisors.

Thank you for your investment of time and attention to this message.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Ehret  
3492 Wild Lilac Road  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

**From:** [Pattie Komai](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** repeal of campaign finance laws  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 11:27:21 AM

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To Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

I'm writing to object to the repeal of our current political campaign finance limits. I feel this will favor special interest groups who are able to make larger donations that will dilute the contributions made by the average citizen.

This change would affect all of our important county elections, and would silence the voices of our individual citizens. This is much too important an issue to leave it to the Board members to decide. This change should be decided by the voters of Ventura County.

Patricia Komai  
Thousand Oaks, CA

**From:** [Patrick Praetorius](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item #50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:44:33 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Hello, I am writing to question the Board's wish to raise the maximum campaign contribution from \$750 to \$5,500. That seems like a very large jump. I can understand the need to raise the maximum to reflect current economic inflation, so candidates can raise adequate sums to fund their campaigns. However, if the amount is overly high, I think it will invite undue influence on the part of large donors. That is not democratic. My suggestion is to raise the amount to **no more than** \$2,000 per donor. Thank you.

*-Patrick Praetorius*

March 27, 2023

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

It is apparent that implementing changes to the Campaign Finance Ordinance by outrageously increasing the amount donors can donate to a campaign has been on the table for quite some time, but it took Jeff Gorell being elected in 2022 to make it a reality. The Republicans on the board took an oath to perform their duties free of bias, but all three have proven that they are hypocrites and dance to the tune of big money organizations and wealthy donors to who they are indebted. Gorell, Parvin, and Long have chosen to take a partisan position and ignore the underrepresented communities that will be negatively impacted if the amount of campaign contributions increase from \$750 to the outrageous amount of \$5500. I and many others do not expect Parvin, Long, and Gorell to change their vote, however, the voters who believe in equality, equity, and representation for all without bias will continue the fight to counteract the unjust vote that took place on March 14, 2023 and no doubt will be the same on March 28, 2023. As for Supervisor Gorell who represents the district where I reside, I did not vote for you, I voted for **Claudia Bill-de la Peña, who would have represented all fairly and not a select few based-on bias and indebtedness. You have proven and will continue to prove why you should not have been elected.**

In closing, I want to acknowledge Supervisor Lopez and LaVere for voting against a campaign finance increase that is designed to negatively impact candidates of color and/or candidates who refuse to accept lucrative campaign donations (becoming marionettes for those donors) but are committed to running grass roots campaigns and providing fair representation for all. Hopefully, in 2024 the county will be saying “bye bye” to Long and “hello” to a supervisor that is committed to providing fair representation for all and not for a select few.

Sincerely,

Patrissha (Thousand Oaks, Community Activist)

**From:** [Paul Aist](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:51:13 AM

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To the Board of Supervisors of Ventura County:

I am writing the Board to express my objection to repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. The campaign contribution limits and campaign reporting requirements are just as important today to ensure trust in elections and our county government as they were when the ordinance was originally written.

Sincerely,

Paul Aist

8892 Tacoma Street, Ventura

**From:** [Paul Barr](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:33:04 PM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

Paul Barr  
Simi Valley

**From:** [Paul H. Johnson](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** I favor: Scrap the Ventura County campaign limit laws  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:59:42 AM

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Scrap the Ventura County campaign limit laws is OK with me. Cut regulations that are redundant. The applicable state laws suffice.

I agree with Gorell and Parvin:

"Less than three months into their new roles, Supervisors Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin asked their colleagues to scrap a 20-year-old county law designed to promote public trust in government by strictly limiting the amount of money that individuals and groups can contribute to candidates for county political offices.

With the assent of Supervisor Kelly Long, the board voted 3-2 this week to move forward with the idea, and now will take a final vote in two weeks to make the action official. Once that county ordinance is off the books, county elections will be governed by a more permissive state law. That will mean candidates for county political offices will be able to accept checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial increase over the existing county limit of \$750."

Signed: Paul H Johnson, Moorpark, CA 93021

**From:** [Paula Osterbrink](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Repeal  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:10:02 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Supervisors,

I am against your repeal of the campaign finance limit of \$750. I have read your reasoning, it does not hold water. We do not need to politicize our supervisorial races any further, and we all know more money spent will do that. I will be watching your votes with great interest, and will remember them well for the next election.

Sincerely,

Paula Osterbrink



**From:** [Pavel Bondarenko](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** I am against repealing the \$750 limit for individual campaign contributions.  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 7:10:55 AM

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I am against repealing the \$750 limit for individual campaign contributions.

Pavel Pavlovich Bondarenko  
3512 Storm Cloud Street  
Thousand Oaks CA 91360

**From:** [peggie noisette](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item 44  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 7:45:54 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I strongly oppose the proposed change in campaign finance limits.

Sent from my iPhone  
Peggie

**From:** [Perry Macdonald](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 11:19:02 AM

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Perry Macdonald  
3963 Greenwood St, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320

On Sun, Mar 26, 2023, 11:17 AM Perry Macdonald <[perrym@pobox.com](mailto:perrym@pobox.com)> wrote:

I would like to register my opposition to the potential repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. The supervisors should be focused on providing the best governance of this county. Removing limits on campaign donations is not good governance and only benefits those with significant financial resources, not the average resident of the county.

**From:** [Michael Prihar](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:31:10 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

It has come to my attention that a proposed resolution under item 50 would repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. I strongly oppose any changes that would result in allowing special interests with extensive financial resources to have far greater influence than they presently possess on our local elections. The existing ordinance, with its limitations, has allowed the local citizenry to insure a higher degree of fairness and transparency.

I strongly urge you to keep the ordinance with current restrictions in place.

All efforts to protect our current elections fair and reflective of the desires of the voters, not moneyed interests, are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Michael Prihar  
3322 Dusk Dr.  
Camarillo, CA 93012

**From:** [Ray Powers](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Item 50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 5:56:54 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Hello,

I strongly request that the board not change the \$750 cap on campaign donations and that staff prepare a report on the proposed change to \$5,500.

Thank you,  
Ray Powers  
Ojai, CA

**From:** [Rebecca Windinwood](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Revised, on Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 5:57:31 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As a resident of Ventura County, I implore you to NOT eliminate the \$750 cap on campaign contributions you will vote on for the second time on Tuesday night.

It is essential for trust and transparency, upon which democracy depends, for all citizens to know WHO supports WHOM, to prevent undue monetary influence from infecting local politics.

To quote former Supervisors Steve Bennett and Linda Parks, in an op-ed written for the Ventura County Star:

Simply put, the arguments for repealing our important campaign ordinance are so weak that they raise skepticism. They certainly do not hold up to a logical analysis. Most importantly, they do not reflect the standards and values we have set for ourselves for the last two decades in Ventura County."

Your constituents, who rely on you and others to represent us, expect you to honor our wishes above those of monied interests who might seek your and other politicians' favor with large campaign donations.

PLEASE VOTE NO to eliminating the cap, retain it at a maximum of \$750, and do what is right for the People. KEEP DARK MONEY OUT OF POLITICS!

Thank you,

Rebecca Windinwood  
1202 Loma Dr, Spc 75  
Ojai, CA 93023



March 27, 2023

Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

Re: Item 50: Second Hearing of Repeal of Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance

Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

Based upon the results of the March 14<sup>th</sup> Board hearing, it is apparent that the decision to repeal the County's Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance was pre-determined and the hearings a formality to minimally meet legal requirements.

Otherwise, why the rush to set aside the entire Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance (Article 6 of Chapter 2 of the Ventura County Ordinance Code)? If the proponents of this repeal believe there are clear and considerable benefits to the County and all its people, why not confidently put it on the ballot in 2024?

That 33 out of 58 counties have adopted the State's Political Reform Act is not a compelling reason or evidence for Ventura County repealing its ordinance. There are 25 counties that have their own campaign finance ordinances like Ventura County. There are 183 cities that have their own campaign finance regulations, one of them the City of Oxnard, the largest city in the County.

Where are the facts and evidence that demonstrate the repeal actually provides considerable benefits to the County and its people? Without these facts and benefits clearly evident and defined, it does raise the questions – what is the real motivation for the timing of this repeal and if the County and its people do not substantially benefit from this repeal, who does?

The repeal clearly does not promote public trust. The repeal does not eliminate independent expenditure committees. The repeal does not guarantee timely and efficient enforcement of violations. The repeal, a major policy change, does not appear to have undergone staff review as there is an absence of a CEO recommendation. The repeal cedes local control of our election laws to the State. The repeal raises the limit on campaign contributions sevenfold. The repeal diminishes the intended rationale for having Majority Minority Districts.

These issues do not appear to concern the proponents of this repeal.

We have requested that the Board delay its action on the proposed repeal. The request has been ignored. We have asked the Board to have this repeal placed on the ballot in 2024. The request has been ignored. We want to understand the facts and evidence of how this benefits the County and its people. These are reasonable requests for any major proposed policy change like that being proposed for our County's Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. What is the harm in allowing the public a say in this matter?

Rene Aiu on behalf of the Harbor & Beach Community Alliance

cc: clerk of the Board



**From:** [Renee Banta Hook](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** I oppose raising Contribution limits to political campaigns  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:17:35 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors of Ventura County,  
I have been a physician in a Ventura County Clinic for 18 years. I **oppose** raising the contribution limits of the Supervisors. This ensures a level playing field in protecting the public's interests.

Sincerely,

Dr. Renee B. Hook

Sierra Vista Family Medical Clinic, Simi Valley

**From:** [Rexlevi](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 9:04:27 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Politics should be matter driven, not financial. Please do not allow increased funds in political elections.

Very best,

Rex Levi  
Ventura County property owner

Tiny device... ParDon errorz  
CalDRE 00926539

**From:** [Rhett Walker](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on Agenda Item 50 for 3/28/23 Meeting  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 4:28:23 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Rhett Walker, and I live at 1160 Lave Ave, Ojai, CA 93023.

Please do not move forward with the proposed removal of the county's campaign contribution limit ordinance. Keeping the cap on individual campaign donations at \$750 is vital to the democratic process in Ventura County.

At the very least, more time must be taken on the issue to properly analyze the effects eliminating this ordinance will have.

Please direct your staff to prepare a full analysis and report on the proposed change so that the residents who voted for you have all the facts on the consequences of removal.

As income inequality continues to grow, changing policy to give more influence and power to the few who can afford the highest campaign contributions erodes the foundation of democracy. We know money influences campaigns and shapes the outcome of elections. Do not move away from the policies put in place to ensure that everyone has an equal right to participate in local governance.

Thank you for your time,  
Rhett Walker

**From:** [Richard Erlich](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 4:15:09 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Agenda Item, time certain 10:30 am on Tuesday, March 28th

To the Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors:

I oppose strongly the resolution under item 50 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. Since 2003, the current ordinance has served well in preventing special interests and and special-interest money from unduly influencing elections in our County.

The age of the Robber Barons — including California's — is mostly behind us, and with it, for the most part, the direct purchase of legislators; but we still have corporate interests dumping millions into political organizations and campaigns, undermining democracy in the American Republic, and our State. Repealing Ventura County's sensible and effective ordinance will only worsen the current trend, 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.

Respectfully,  
Richard D. Erlich  
711 Island View Circle  
Port Hueneme, CA 93041

++++  
P.S.

From the classic 1952/53 satire by Frederik Pohl and C.M. Kornbluth, *The Space Merchant*, a dystopia set in a fairly-near future, when most of Earth is controlled by an oligarchy of advertising agencies. The lines below are from the protagonist/anti-hero of the book, at this time a loyal employee of a major Agency.

Our representative government now is perhaps more representative than it has ever been before in history. It is not necessarily representative per capita, but it most surely is ad valorem. If you like philosophical problems, here is one for you: should each human being's vote register alike, as the lawbooks pretend and as some say the founders of our nation desired? Or should a vote be weighed according to the wisdom, the power, and the influence — that is, the money — of the voter? That is a philosophical problem for you, understand; not for me. I am a pragmatist, and a pragmatist, moreover, on the payroll of Fowler Schocken [Agency]. (p. 12; ch. 2, 50th Anniversary Edition)

*The Space Merchants* should remain satire.

**From:** [Robert Chianese](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Do not raise campaign gift limit  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:56:53 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board Members:

Keep the current limit on campaign contributions so ordinary people can influence their elected leaders.

Bob Chianese

*Robert Chianese, Ph.D., Emeritus Prof. English, CSU Northridge  
Past President Amer Assoc for Advance of Science Pacific Div  
Fulbright Senior Specialist, columnist American Scientist magazine  
writer, poet, grandpa website: <https://islandviewmedia.net>*

**From:** [Robert Kyle](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:16:37 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the board,

I kindly request that you do NOT change the \$750 cap on campaign donations to some higher figure, and ESPECIALLY not to \$5,500.

We want to also request that staff prepare a report on the proposed change to \$5,500. As an Ojai resident, we don't like the move to accommodate big business and industry from more easily influencing our political future.

Thank you!

Respectfully,  
Robert

Robert Kyle  
626.260.5509  
Dark Delicious Music  
[www.robertkyle.com](http://www.robertkyle.com)  
[www.facebook.com/robertkylemusic](https://www.facebook.com/robertkylemusic)

**From:** [Robin Lee](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 44: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 7:46:24 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the resolution under item 44 to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. The current ordinance has been in place since 2003 and has been effective in preventing special interests and money from unduly influencing our local elections.

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

Thank you,

Robin Lee

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Robin Munson](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:45:39 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

Robin Munson

Oxnard, CA

--

*"My religion is kindness." - the Dalai Lama*



**From:** [Rodney Love](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Please do not repeal the \$750 limit for campaign contributions.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 10:15:36 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

The Ventura Board of Supervisors recently voted 3-2 to repeal the \$750 limit for individual campaign contributions.

This will favor special interest groups who are able to make larger contributions & dilute the contributions made by the average citizen.

I am against repealing this rule.

Rodney Love.

**From:** [Marion Bottorff](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 1:15:30 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I oppose the removal of the current \$750 campaign contributions cap, Further, I request that the Board of Supervisors direct staff to prepare an analysis of the proposed campaign contribution cap changes.

Thank you.

Ron Bottorff  
660 Randy Drive  
Newbury Park CA 91320

**From:** [Ron Rieger](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item #50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 4:53:34 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

RE: Repeal of Finance Campaign Ordinance

My wife, son, and I oppose the higher contribution limits proposed by Parvin and Gorell. Why change something that has worked well for over 20 years?

Best regards,  
Ron Rieger

**From:** [Ronald Arruejo](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Application for Appointment: Cultural Heritage Board  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:19:32 AM  
**Attachments:** [Arruejo, Ronald J - Cultural Heritage Board - Appointment Application.pdf](#)

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,

Please find my application for the Cultural Heritage Board attached to this email.

If any further information is required, please let me know. Thank you.

Best,

**Ronald J Arruejo**

**From:** [Roni Miranda](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item: Second Public Hearing Regarding Adoption of an Ordinance Amendment for Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:52:40 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I must express my deep concern over the proposed repeal of the campaign finance ordinance by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors.

This is a reckless and self-serving action that disregards the will of the people and the fundamental values of our democracy.

Supervisors Jeff Gorell, Kelly Long, and Janice Parvin did not campaign for votes on this issue, nor did they receive a mandate from the people to make such a drastic change to our campaign rules. Yet, they are pushing forward with this dangerous proposal, despite the clear public opposition and serious concerns raised by local news outlets.

This shows an alarming set of priorities that does align with the oath of office to serve the people of Ventura County. It is clear that these three supervisors are not listening to the voices of their constituents. Instead, they seem to be serving the interests of the wealthy and powerful donors who have quietly funded their campaigns. This is not the kind of leadership that we need in Ventura County.

We know all too well the corrupting influence of big money in politics. (Lemonwood Oil Permits) We have seen how it undermines the integrity of our elections and erodes the trust that we have in our government. If we allow this proposed repeal to go forward, we will be opening the door to even more corruption and influence peddling.

We cannot allow this to happen. We must stand up for our democracy and for the principles of justice and fairness that it represents. I urge the Board of Supervisors to listen to the people and to vote NO on the repeal of the campaign finance ordinance. We must put the interests of our community first, and work to create a fair system of governance that truly serves the needs of all Ventura County residents.

Thank you, and let us continue to fight for a just and equitable society.

**From:** [rawitt@verizon.net](mailto:rawitt@verizon.net)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item #50, 10:30 at 3/28 Board of Supervisors hearing  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:03:16 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

As a 29 year resident of Ventura County, I OPPOSE the proposed repeal of our county's Campaign Finance Ordinance.

Just two months ago, in January of 2023, headline news included the startling revelation that two in three Americans couldn't cover a \$400 emergency, and that 74% of us are living paycheck-to-paycheck. So what percentage of people will actually be able to afford a discretionary, four-figure political donation? Precious few - - primarily those who already have an out-sized voice in political decisions as a result of their out-sized wealth, power and influence.

Yet a majority of our new Board of Supervisors thinks that raising the amount of money politicians can accept -- by 633%! -- to fund their political campaigns is among the pressing issues they should propose for change?! I submit that making more money more easily available to politicians is not among constituents' primary concerns; more money for over-sized campaign signs, newspaper and social media ads, daily mailers, and robo-calls will neither make our lives better nor easier. People want our "public servants" to address *our* problems, not their own.

There is building frustration and anger shared by people all across our own nation as well as globally that the voices of the small but many are not heard nor heeded by our government, which too often does the bidding of only the powerful and wealthy, while sacrificing and exploiting the interests of the marginalized and vulnerable in the relentless pursuit of personal and corporate profit.

As a consistent voter who has not missed a single election in the 45 years since I turned 18, as a mother of two young adults who are already inclined to mistrust government because of the corrupting influence of money in politics, and because of a valid perception that their voices (and votes) are insignificant when compared to the funding of well-healed special interests, I believe our elected leaders should endeavor to reduce inequity in political access, not attempt to further entrench it -- because the more people feel disenfranchised, the more unstable our political system grows.

Instead of funneling ever-more money to campaigning, public servants who truly seek to serve the public, must embrace strategies to reduce the money, and influence it buys, in political campaigns and policy-making so that our leaders again become accountable to the people rather than to their biggest campaign donors. To that end, instead of raising campaign donation limits so they can collect more money, more quickly, from fewer individuals, our Supervisors should instead consider strengthening campaign finance transparency and disclosure laws, increasing enforcement and accountability of "dark-money" operations, expanding public financing of political

campaigns to reduce the time candidates need to devote to fundraising (so those elected can actually focus their efforts on doing the people's work), reducing candidate's reliance on wealthy donors, and implementing "ranked choice" voting reforms to better represent voters election preferences.

I urge a NO vote on agenda item #50.

Sincerely,

Rose Ann Witt  
rawitt@verizon.net

**From:** [Rosalie Barili](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 6:15:46 PM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

--

*Rosalie Barili*



**From:** [rosalva.buran](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 5:13:53 PM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

Rosalva Buran

**From:** [Rosemarie Madsen](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Repeal of the Local Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 8:33:42 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I'm writing in opposition to the repeal of the local ordinance regarding raising maximum campaign contributions. Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin have introduced a motion to repeal the current limits set by the Ventura County campaign finance reform ordinance and replace them. In other words, individual contribution limits can be raised from \$750 to \$5,500. This would increase the influence of special interest groups. THIS IS DISGRACEFUL. Lets just keep private individual contributions to just \$750.

Sincerely,  
Rosemarie Madsen

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Ruth Cooper](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 1:54:14 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Supervisors,

I urge you to protect our County's current campaign finance rules. I am shocked and dismayed that this repeal is even being discussed! I will certainly be paying close attention to how my district supervisor, Matt LaVere, votes, as well as the other supervisors.

Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign finance rules--prioritizing accountability and transparency and allowing grassroots-funded candidates to compete. This proposed repeal would mean more opportunities for special interests--like oil and developers--to buy influence in our local policy. Anyone who votes to repeal our campaign finance rules is clearly corrupt and untrustworthy.

Ruth Cooper  
818 Sunset Pl, Ojai, CA 93023

**From:** [Sammy Gonzalez](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item No. 50 As a concerned Ventura County resident,  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:44:12 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am urging the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to object to the repeal of Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance. For two decades, Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign finance rules — prioritizing accountability and transparency and allowing grassroots funded candidates to compete. If the Ventura County Board of Supervisors repeals Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance this will dilute the power of local, grassroots activists and give more opportunities for special interests — like oil and developers — to buy influence in our local policy. This is a huge step backward from moving towards a healthy democracy rooted in transparency and accountability. I urge you to reject this repeal and listen to the vast majority of Americans who want less money in political campaigns.

Thank you

Samuel Gonzalez Andrade

**From:** [Sandy Diaz](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Tuesday BOS Merging Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:37:26 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear BOS,

I oppose this Agenda item #50, which increases the contribution limit by over 600%! This could easily lead to grassroots support being outweighed by larger corporate, special interest, or independently wealthy donors. This is not right! These powerful groups will be able to support their own candidates for county political offices with checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial and considerable increase over the existing county limit of \$750.

As far as I know, there has been NO independent analysis of the impact of this proposed repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. This is an unconscionable oversight on the part of the Board of Supervisors.

Hundreds of people have urged the Board to vote NO on the repeal, even the newspaper has urged more research before repeal! If the Supervisors won't listen to the public then WHO are they listening to?

Sincerely,  
Sandra Diaz  
113 Villanova Ave, Oxnard, CA 93036



As a civil rights and advocacy organization it has been frustrating and appalling to have witnessed and endured poor leadership during and throughout the pandemic, the end of progress in having both parties work together after Supervisor Carmen Ramirez was elected, and sadly the great strides in having this board work together for the benefit of ALL residents in Ventura County seems to be of no interest to Supervisor Long, Gorell, and Parvin.

More than ever there is a serious need to EDUCATE on systemic racism, inclusion, privilege, environmental racism, and continual harm to vulnerable communities. We need servant leaders who care about our county not career politicians who have selfish self interest of moving into the state and national arena at the expense of our residents. This ordinance protects Ventura County from sell-outs and it ensures everyone has a fair chance to participate.

We are against the repeal of the ordinance 4510 as it is setup to protect and be inclusive of constituents best interests. Anyone in support of repealing this ordinance is not a friend, or in support of those who have been negatively affected by organizations who seek to line their pockets at the expense of the lives of our most vulnerable. Latino Town Hall will be watching with diligence and will take every step necessary to remove electeds who act against the best interest of the community.

On behalf of Latino Town Hall Executive Board

Cynthia Salas  
President Latino Town Hall

**From:** [Sara MacCracken](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 7:46:52 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board ,

I urge you to keep the campaign finance limits in place. I understand the argument that it makes the system simpler if our law is the same as the states law but I feel this is a weak argument.

The state should be following Ventura County's lead in making government run by the people not big money. Through campaign finance in this county people from all backgrounds can afford to support candidates and feel like their voice is being heard in equal proportion to corporations or other wealthy entities. This is important. We want to live in a democracy and the way to do that is to level the playing field when it comes to finances.

Please keep the campaign finance law the way it is written now.

Sincerely,

Sara MacCracken  
Ojai, California

--

Feeling gratitude for all that is.

**From:** [Satish Shah](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [District1](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [District5](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:41:19 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance was enacted to ensure that our local elections remain free from the undue influence of money and special interests. So DO NOT make it difficult for ordinary people to genuinely participate in the election and governing process.

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

Sincerely,  
Satish N. Shah  
2256 Oak Haven Aveue  
Simi Valley, CA 93063



**From:** [Sawyer Downey](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:15:06 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Hi there,

I am a resident of Ventura and I'm writing in regards to the campaign donations cap. I'm aware that agenda item 50 is a proposal to change the campaign donation cap to \$5,500. In the best interest of our county, I ask that the campaign donations cap remain at \$750.

Thank you,  
Sawyer Downey  
Ventura, CA 93003

**From:** [Scott Marshall](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** \$750 limit for individual campaign contributions.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:52:35 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Please do NOT repeal the \$750 limit for individual campaign contributions.

Thanks  
Scott Marshall

**From:** [Scott Weiss](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 8:11:41 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Please do not change the spending cap for campaign spending. By leaving the cap in place our government will be better off and better represented for the average citizen.

Thank you,  
Scott Weiss

*Scott Weiss, CPA CMA  
Managing Partner  
Weiss, Bowens, & Magson, LLP  
1255 Callens Road, Suite C  
Ventura, CA 93003-8340  
805 642-3800*

This e-mail is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. secs. 2510-2521, and is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, the reader is hereby notified that any unauthorized review, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail, delete the e-mail and destroy all copies of the e-mail and any attachments.

**From:** [shahlacharm \(null\)](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 11:22:14 PM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,  
Shahla Charm

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Shannon Diffner](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:11:13 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am a 17-year resident and homeowner in Newbury Park. I am writing to express my opposition to the repeal of the campaign finance ordinance. As your constituent, I urge you to vote to maintain the current ordinance.

If the campaign-contribution limit is increased, positions will go to those with the deepest pockets instead of those who are most qualified. Please, vote to maintain the current ordinance.

Thank you,

Shannon Diffner  
Newbury Park

**From:** [Shanti Sandosham](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment Item 50 (formerly Item 44)  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:14:36 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Clerk of the Board,

The Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance increases integrity, transparency and fairness in our local elections. To increase the campaign contributions from \$750 per person to \$5,500 will encourage corporate and special interests to control our elections. The average citizen's voice will be drowned out by big money donors. This will also make politicians less motivated to engage with its citizens and hear their needs and desires.

You have read and heard more than a hundred public comments, the overwhelming majority of whom are against the repeal of the Campaign Finance Ordinance. Please do not repeal the Campaign Finance Ordinance. I strongly urge you to reject Agenda Item 50, a proposal that defies the democratic process. Support fair and balanced elections where special interest money is not allowed to buy the outcome.

Sincerely,

Shanti Sandosham  
Born in Ventura. Currently residing in Meiners Oaks

**From:** [Sharon Voigt Damerell](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 8:15:54 AM

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**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](mailto: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.

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

Sincerely,

Sharon Voigt Damerell,

510 Raspberry Pl,

Oxnard, CA 93036

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. .  
. .  
. .

Sharon Voigt Damerell (she/her)



**From:** [Shawn Terris](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 11:28:48 AM

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**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](mailto: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. Approving this change will 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:** [sheilaghen](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 7:31:11 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,

PLEASE vote NO on eliminating the current \$750 cap on campaign contributions. With the lack of transparency and trust issues happening in Washington on a daily basis, let's keep our local politics free of the influence of big money. It's the right thing to do. Gorell and Parvin's rationale behind this decision is skewed and average citizens will lose their voices. Raising limits will increase loyalty to big donors over their constituents.

PLEASE vote NO on increasing campaign contributions.

Thank you  
Sheila Ghen

**From:** [Sherrill Strothman](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:11:56 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

As a voter in Ventura County, I am deeply concerned about the possibility of repealing the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance is critical to preventing corruption in our elections and ensuring that wealthy special interests do not compromise our democracy.

Please do not repeal this important ordinance and continue to protect the integrity of our elections in Ventura County.

Sincerely,

Sherrill Strothman

**From:** [Sherry Adkins](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Against raising campaign contributions  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 10:13:16 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Do not do this which would given special interest groups the edge over private citizens.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Sierra Alder](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:49:01 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am strongly requesting that you please keep in place the \$750 cap on campaign donations and to keep the playing field level for those citizens choosing to participate in your campaigns going forward.

Respectfully,

Sierra

Ojai, CA

**From:** [Steve McCollum](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign contribution limit  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 4:27:42 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Please do not repeal of the \$750 campaign contribution limit

Steve & Judy McCollum  
Shirley Dr  
Newbury Park

**From:** [Stvirgin](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:26:52 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Hello Supervisors,

Concerning item 50 on your agenda. We strongly oppose any change in the present campaign donation cap of \$750. Increasing this by any amount will give unfair election power to big business and wealthy individuals.

Sincerely,  
Steve & Virginia Newkirk  
1363 Foothill Rd.  
Ojai, CA 93023

**Please be sure to mention agenda item 50 (or your comments may not be counted.)  
Ask that the campaign donations cap of \$750 not be changed, and add that county staff  
prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500.**

**From:** [Steve Kelly](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #50  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 8:00:51 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Do not repeal the Ventura County Finance Reform Ordinance! Don't let the wealthy run Ventura County.

Steve Kelly



**From:** [Steven Nash](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [Lopez, Vianey](#); [LaVere, Matt](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:54:27 AM

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## Agenda Item 50

Less than three months into their new roles, Supervisors Jeff Gorell and Janice Parvin asked their colleagues to scrap a 20-year-old county law. Please, don't do this. I urge you to keep the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. Modify the limits to reflect the effects of 20 years of inflation but keep it in place!

The suggestion that the higher state contribution limits will somehow make independent expenditure committees disappear is absurd. Gorell and Parvin did not put forth good arguments to make the change. Indeed, Gorell bypassed county counsel entirely and inserted his own prejudiced and unsubstantiated legal opinion which, for some bizarre reason, the other supervisors either swallowed hook, line and sinker or failed to ask pertinent questions as to the validity of his statements. From the VC Star editorial, "What was missing in the supervisors' consideration, however, was any sort of independent analysis. The board was presented simply with a letter from Gorell and Parvin. There was no staff analysis that might have examined the pros and cons."

The targets of their ordinance are obvious, Supervisors Vianey Lopez & Matt LaVere, DA Erik Nasarenko, and County Clerk-Recorder Michelle Ascencion. Also on the hit list is our cherished SOAR. Ventura County has a huge bullseye on its back and the oil industry, the housing industry and conservative political action groups want to be able to buy the election for their chosen candidates with literally tens of millions of dollars.

This is as transparent a power grab by money-grubbing politicians as we've seen recently. When 97% of the verbal and written comments are opposed to this and the Board majority will not put it before the voters then we all know the fix is in. Please vote against this "reform"!

Be afraid, be very, very afraid!

Steve Nash

2211 Laurel Valley Place

Oxnard, CA 93036

805-889-0218

**From:** [Steve Woodward](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** \$750 political donation limit  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 10:46:02 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

This limit should not be repealed. Raising it will reduce the voice of Ventura County everyday people in favor of the rich.

-Steve

**From:** [Steven Graff](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:12:35 AM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

Dr. Steven Graff

1525 Frazier St.

Camarillo, CA 93012

**From:** [Stuart Bjornlie](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item No. 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:16:30 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I have been a resident in Ventura County for over 25 years and have raised a family here. I value the quality of life that Ventura County offers and appreciate the way the Board of Supervisors has governed these past few decades. As a concerned Ventura County resident, I am urging the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to object to the repeal of Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance. For two decades, Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign finance rules — prioritizing accountability and transparency and allowing grassroots funded candidates to compete. If the Ventura County Board of Supervisors repeals Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance this will dilute the power of local, grassroots activists and give more opportunities for special interests — like oil and developers — to buy influence in our local policy. This is a huge step backward from moving towards a healthy democracy rooted in transparency and accountability. I urge you to reject this repeal and listen to the vast majority of Americans who want less money in political campaigns.

Sincerely,

Stuart Bjornlie

2487 Sunset Dr, Ventura, CA 93001

**From:** [Suky Reilly](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Increase Contribution Limit  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 7:17:10 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Please do not repeal. You should be representing the will of the people, not large corporations. DO NOT INCREASE CONTRIBUTION LIMIT!

Natalie S Reilly  
176 Potawatomí St  
Ventura, 93001

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Susan Jackson](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item 50 vote on Tuesday  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 12:09:12 PM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Please do not change the \$750 cap. Again this is about Item 50 vote on this coming Tuesday.  
Thank-you,  
Susan Jackson

**From:** [Susan Pourzia](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:59:15 PM

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**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](mailto: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 50, 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,

Susan Pourzia  
Oak Park, CA



**From:** [Suzi Sheweloff](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** 600% increase!  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 11:13:10 AM

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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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I strongly oppose the repeal of the local campaign contribution ordinance!

Thank you!

Suzette Sheweloff

**From:** [Sydney Gordon](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [District1](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [District5](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:02:46 AM

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**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](mailto: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 Agenda Item 50, 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,  
Sydney J. Gordon  
3202 Lisbon Ln  
Oxnard, CA 93036

**From:** [Sydney Harris](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** REF: Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:33:42 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Board of Supervisors, Ventura County:

Please retain the cap of \$750 on campaign donations and please have the staff prepare/publicize a full report on the proposed change to \$5,500.

Respectfully,

Sydney L. Harris  
5350 Woodbury St.  
Ventura, CA

**From:** [Sylvia Acuna](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item #50 of Agenda  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:26:04 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am alarmed by the attempt to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance.

I oppose this Agenda item #50, which increases the contribution limit by over **600%** and could easily lead to grassroots support being seriously — and often — outweighed by larger corporate, special interest, or independently wealthy donors. These powerful groups will be able to support their own candidates for county political offices with checks for up to \$5,500 — a substantial and considerable increase over the existing county limit of \$750.

As far as I know, there has been NO independent analysis of the impact of this proposed repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. This is an unconscionable oversight on the part of the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,  
Sylvia and Alejandro M. Acuña

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Sylvia Johnson](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Don't repeal donations limit  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:27:38 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

We need to keep big money out of politics. Increasing the limit will give big donors more power in elections.

Sylvia F. Johnson  
423 Pacific Circle  
Newbury Park, CA 91320

**From:** [Tee Barr](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [District1](#); [Long, Kelly](#); [Supervisor Gorell](#); [Supervisor Parvin](#); [District5](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:35:19 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my opposition to the repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance. This ordinance is essential to ensuring that all voters have an equal say in our elections, regardless of their financial resources.

Please protect our right to a fair election by keeping this important ordinance in place.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Theresa Barr

Simi Valley

**From:** [Tessa Byars](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item number 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:30:26 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

As a concerned Ventura County resident, I am urging the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to object to the repeal of Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance. For two decades, Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign finance rules — prioritizing accountability and transparency and allowing grassroots funded candidates to compete. If the Ventura County Board of Supervisors repeals Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance this will dilute the power of local, grassroots activists and give more opportunities for special interests — like oil and developers — to buy influence in our local policy. This is a huge step backward from moving towards a healthy democracy rooted in transparency and accountability. I urge you to reject this repeal and listen to the vast majority of Americans who want less money in political campaigns.

**From:** [Theodora Holt](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 10:45:44 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Ventura City Council Members,

As a resident I'd like to register a comment regarding agenda item 50 for tomorrows meeting.

I'm asking that the campaign cap of \$750 not be changed and that county staff prepare an analysis of the proposal to change the cap to \$5,500

**Thank you**  
**Theodora Holt**  
**Ojai resident**



**From:** [Thomas Booth Harris](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** REF: Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:27:50 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Board of Supervisors, Ventura County:

Please retain the cap of \$750 on campaign donations and please have the staff prepare/publicize a full report on the proposed change to \$5,500.

Respectfully,

Thomas Booth Harris  
5350 Woodbury St.  
Ventura, CA

**From:** [Tim Nafziger](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment: Opposition to proposed resolution under item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:12:27 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Clerk of the Board and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to comment on tomorrow's board agenda. I strongly opposed the proposed resolution under item 50, which seeks to repeal the Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.

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,  
Tim Nafziger,  
Ventura, CA

**From:** [Todd Soller](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50 - campaign donations cap  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:49:15 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

To the Ventura County Board of Supervisors –

I'm writing as a resident of Ojai to ensure we maintain the cap of \$750 on campaign contributions for Supervisor candidates. Local government must remain open to, and largely influenced by, the constituents of all classes residing in Ventura County. Maintaining the current cap maximizes equity for all residents in these elections.

Please do not moved the campaign donations caps.

Todd Soller  
Ojai

Todd Soller

Head of Global Supply Chain  
Patagonia, Inc.  
[todd.soller@patagonia.com](mailto:todd.soller@patagonia.com)  
+1 415 948 5884

*Earth is now our only shareholder.*

**From:** [tsbudlong@gmail.com](mailto:tsbudlong@gmail.com)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [ALASDAIR COYNE](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:04:21 PM

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Sunday, March 26, 2023

To the Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

Concerning Agenda Item 50

I understand a proposal to change the Supervisor's maximum campaign donation from \$750 to \$5,500 is before the board at the March 28 meeting.

This proposal should not be considered until an analysis of environmental and other impacts has been prepared and published, with request for written comments from the public.

A public hearing should be held where members of the public can make verbal comments and can discuss the measure with the Supervisors.

Regards,

Tom Budlong  
3216 Mandeville Canyon Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90049  
310-963-1731

**From:** [Tom Koenig](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Change in political donations  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:43:03 PM

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Please leave intact our existing campaign laws.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Tony Ferguson](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item No. 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 11:17:46 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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To Whom This May Concern,

As a concerned Ventura County resident, I am urging the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to object to the repeal of Ventura County's Campaign Finance Ordinance. For two decades, Ventura County has had one of the most effective campaign finance rules — prioritizing accountability and transparency and allowing grassroots funded candidates to compete. If the Ventura County Board of Supervisors repeals Ventura County's campaign finance ordinance this will dilute the power of local, grassroots activists and give more opportunities for special interests — like oil and developers — to buy influence in our local policy. This is a huge step backward from moving towards a healthy democracy rooted in transparency and accountability. I urge you to reject this repeal and listen to the vast majority of Americans who want less money in political campaigns.

Tony Ferguson

**Customs and Trade**

[tony.ferguson@patagonia.com](mailto:tony.ferguson@patagonia.com)

**patagonia**

"Were in business to save our home planet."

**From:** [Torey Rubrecht](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:43:01 AM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

Dear Board of Supervisors,

PLEASE do not change the campaign donations cap. The \$750 cap should not be raised.

I also ask that the county staff prepare an analysis of the proposal to raise the cap to \$5,500.

Over and Out,  
**Torey Rubrecht**

141 S. Laurel St.  
Ventura, CA 93001

805-620-8132

**From:** [Veronica Miranda](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item: Second Public Hearing Regarding Adoption of an Ordinance Amendment for Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance.  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:23:21 PM

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**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](mailto:Email.Security@ventura.org).

I am deeply concerned to learn that the Ventura County Board of Supervisors are considering repealing the existing campaign finance ordinance, despite the clear public opposition and serious concerns raised by your constituents and local news outlets. This is yet another example of those in power ignoring the will of the people they are meant to serve. Supervisors Jeff Gorell, Kelly Long, and Janice Parvin did not campaign on this bold and self-serving action. We did not vote for such swift and drastic change in campaign rules!

If you won't listen to the voices of your constituents, then who are you listening to? Whose interests are you truly serving? We know all too well the corrupting influence of big money in politics, and how it undermines the very foundations of our democracy.

We also know that these votes were paid for by influential money that helped each of you get elected.

This was demonstrated by these 3 supervisors' previous votes to issue oil permits for the Lemonwood area of Oxnard. It was done quickly and without consideration of the health of the people that live there.

I urge you to please LISTEN the people, and vote NO on the repeal of the campaign finance ordinance. Put the interests of the community first, and to uphold the principles of justice and fairness.

Thank you.  
Senior Ventura County Resident since 1977



**From:** [Bill Karr](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Clerk of the VCBOS - Agenda Item #50  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:35:30 PM

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Subject: Agenda Item #50- Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

The proposal presented adversely impacts our working class communities.

Such an increase in funding limits for campaign contributions only turns up the volume of special interests thus drowning out the voice of the working class and underprivileged communities.

Please respect the voice of our working class by voting NO on this item.

Respectfully,

W.T. Karr Jr.  
[Karrdiaz@gmail.com](mailto:Karrdiaz@gmail.com)  
Oxnard, CA 93036

March 27, 2023

Re: Item 50, Repeal of the Ventura County Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
Please vote NO on Item 50

To the Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

It troubles me that the Board is considering voting on Item 50 in such a rushed manner.

Representative government is based on giving constituents equal voice in deciding who represents them. Recently in many cases, elections are being won by those who can spend the most money. This marginalizes many, leads to public apathy and a government that serves only large donors.

Please vote no on Item 50 to allow more analysis, public discussion and consideration on this matter.

Respectfully,  
Wayne Morgan  
Ventura, CA

**From:** [Wendy Gayner](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Campaign contribution limit increase  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 6:06:00 PM

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Dear sirs,

I'm writing to let you know that I am adamantly opposed to increasing the campaign contribution limit! Our elections should NOT be for sale to the highest bidder. There is enough of this buying of elections on the Federal level, and we certainly don't need it here. If you vote for this I will remember NOT to vote for you and will tell everyone I know to do the same.

Do not sell us out.

Wendy Gayner  
Ventura, 93003

**From:** [Wendy McCobb](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item 50  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 10:42:55 AM

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Repealing the current campaign finance law and removing the \$750 contribution limit is a cynical move that would allow monied interests to increase their influence and persuasiveness on Ventura County elected officials. It would create a situation where the voice, influence and needs of less affluent citizens would be muted, if not overlooked. Consider a situation where oil companies would exert influence to allow oil related activities within close proximity to public schools. Many of the parents of public school students are not affluent and may not even be aware of this issue. Yet, their children would bear the brunt of the hazards (both health and environmental) posed from nearby activity. The rest of us taxpayers would be left paying the price if those students developed health issues. The families of those students would be burdened with extra healthcare costs. Essentially, such a situation would add to the financial strain on the families affected, leading to more financial hardship to vulnerable citizens.

The above is just one example of why increasing campaign finance limits would be harmful.

I find it hard to believe that, at a time when we witness the corrupt influence of money on our politics, we would consider the repeal of limits at all.

Please prepare a report on the proposed change of a limit to \$5,500.

Wendy McCobb  
Ojai



Reply

Forward

**From:** [Willie L](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Item #50  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:43:33 AM

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Dear Clerk of the Board and Supervisors,  
I am a resident, parent, small business owner, engaged community member, and a voter in District 3. The Ventura County Campaign Finance Ordinance protects the democratic system in Ventura County. It protects the integrity of elections and public trust in our county government. It is needed now more than ever.

Willard Lubka  
Thousand Oaks, CA

**From:** [Wynter Barker](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Against Raising the Limit that Individuals Can Contribute  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2023 9:57:06 AM

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Please allow this to serve as my vote AGAINST raising the campaign contribution levels from \$750.00 to \$5,500.00 per individual.

Very truly yours,

*Wynter Barker,*

Legal Secretary to Robert J. Stoll, III, Esq.

**PLEASE NOTE: This email address is NOT a service address. Ex Parte notice is NOT ACCEPTED via email.**

Stoll, Nussbaum & Polakov  
11620 Wilshire Boulevard,  
Suite 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90025  
Tel: (310)996-7500  
Fax: (310)575-4353

**SERVICE ADDRESS:** [mail@stollaw.com](mailto:mail@stollaw.com)

**From:** [Lana Lundin](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [Lopez, Vianey](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda item #50 County of Ventura Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:03:52 PM

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As a resident of Ventura County it was very disheartening to hear the Ventura County Board of Supervisors are willing to allow the wealthy and powerful corporations/organizations to do their bidding while ignoring the responsible citizens of our county.

The Board has done this by voting to rescind the current limit on campaign donations. Money from special interest groups can swing elections. Money spent can easily stand in the way of the democratic process. By rescinding the limit on campaign donations the Board is opening the door to the corruption of our election process.

As our elected officials the Board of Supervisors should be supporting fair and balanced elections rejecting the influence of big money donors. There needs to be public trust in our elections. There cannot be trust if there is unlimited campaign financing.

Please reject rescinding the limit to campaign financing.

Lana Lundin  
Camarillo Resident

**From:** [VC Women Leaders of Color](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Cc:** [mmartinez-bravo@cityofcamarillo.org](#); [cvillasenor@fillmoreca.gov](#); [gabriela.basua@oxnard.org](#); [lhernandez@cityofporthueneme.org](#); [mmcqueenlegohn@cityofporthueneme.org](#); [jpalacios@cityofventura.ca.gov](#); [lcampos@cityofventura.ca.gov](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 12:32:12 PM

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I understand this did not go through so we are trying again. Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **VC Women Leaders of Color** <[vcwomenleadersofcolor@gmail.com](mailto:vcwomenleadersofcolor@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Mon, Mar 27, 2023 at 11:49 AM  
**Subject:** Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance  
**To:** <[clerkoftheboard@ventura.org](mailto:clerkoftheboard@ventura.org)>  
**Cc:** <[mmartinez-bravo@cityofcamarillo.org](mailto:mmartinez-bravo@cityofcamarillo.org)>, <[cvillasenor@fillmoreca.gov](mailto:cvillasenor@fillmoreca.gov)>, <[gabriela.basua@oxnard.org](mailto:gabriela.basua@oxnard.org)>, <[lhernandez@cityofporthueneme.org](mailto:lhernandez@cityofporthueneme.org)>, <[mmcqueenlegohn@cityofporthueneme.org](mailto:mmcqueenlegohn@cityofporthueneme.org)>, <[jpalacios@cityofventura.ca.gov](mailto:jpalacios@cityofventura.ca.gov)>, <[lcampos@cityofventura.ca.gov](mailto:lcampos@cityofventura.ca.gov)>

Honorable Chair and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

We, the undersigned, are writing to you today as a coalition of Women of Color and Ventura County councilmembers.

We felt compelled to connect with you as a unified voice in opposition to your initial vote to rescind the Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance. We have heard the arguments made by Supervisors Gorell, Parvin, and Long, and respectfully disagree.

We are mainly concerned with the potential inequities that your decision may perpetuate in future County elections. As you may be aware, there is a tangible, disparate presence of elected officials who are also Women of Color in Ventura County. If we look at our 54 elected City Council Members, we will find a total of (8) **eight** who are Women of Color.

General civic engagement among this population already presents a number of barriers through competing professional and personal obligations. Yet our County's Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) still deserve opportunities to have elected representation. Your vote to repeal this Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance possibly creates additional financial barriers for lower income or BIPOC residents who may wish to run in future elections. In other words, because poverty is racialized, BIPOC individuals tend to have less access to financial means and in fact Latina women, followed by Black women, encounter the greatest pay equity gap.



A reasonable contribution limit that is also attainable by working-class candidates of color levels the playing field and addresses the financial advantage that an incumbent or a well-connected candidate may typically have. With the default state contribution limit of \$5,500, this will only exacerbate a systemic disparity where those with social, political, and financial advantages will always be able to maintain faster-paced fundraising and can more quickly “out-resource” lower-income or BIPOC challengers.

Equally concerning is two Supervisors electing to bring this item directly to the Board for a single public review and vote, and a follow-up adoption date. In doing so, our Supervisors have bypassed County staff and prevented them from doing right by the taxpayers and giving this item the investigation and research that it truly deserves. Our County Counsel, CEO’s Office, and Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, at minimum, should be at the table for this information gathering.

As with many policy discussions, the public should also be provided with a public study session or community workshop where the input and intelligence of our constituents would be honored and respected. Then that feedback, combined with a meaningful staff study, can be brought back to the Board for a public review of the proposed ordinance revisions, and ultimately voted on from a far more informed position.

If you truly wish to reevaluate the County’s contribution limits, we implore you to do right by county constituents and defer the vote on March 28. We strongly urge you to reflect on your position on this item, and consider how the positive benefits you assume will occur, could also be heavily outweighed by the potential financial disparity you could also be creating, especially among women of color.

Thank you,

Dr. Martita Martinez-Bravo  
Councilmember, City of Camarillo \*

Dr. Martha R. McQueen-Legohn  
Council Member, City Of Port Hueneme\*

Laura Hernandez  
Councilmember, City of Port Hueneme\*

Christina Villaseñor  
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Fillmore\*

Gabriela Basua,  
Councilmember, City Oxnard\*

Liz Campos,  
Councilmember, City of Ventura\*

Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios  
Deputy Mayor, City of Ventura\*

\*for identification purposes only