



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

June 5, 2019

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## **The League of Women Voters in CT, Common Cause in CT and CT Citizen Action Group Defends Citizens' Election Program from Political Attacks**

The League of Women Voters in CT, Common Cause in CT and CT Citizen Action group call on the House of Representatives and the Governor to discard the 11<sup>th</sup> hour on June 4 attack on the integrity of the Citizens' Election Program.

We are extremely disappointed that the Senate snuck an attack on the Citizens' Election Program in the middle of the night. Much of the amendment never had a public hearing, eviscerates oversight and allows for wrong-doing to run rampant. It is disturbing that the bill allows legislators to interfere in the State Election Commission's independent authority over pending cases. This legislation is outrageous and irresponsible. It must be rejected.

**Carol Reimers, President, LWVCT**, "We in the LWVCT strongly believe that campaign finance reform and its oversight by adequately funded regulatory agencies and/or commissions is necessary to ensure the public's "right to know", combat corruption, prevent undue influence, and enable candidates to compete equitably and fairly in the pursuit of public office and/or service".

**Cheri Quickmire, Executive Director, Common Cause in CT**, "The CEP has helped to limit the outsized role traditionally played by special interests in our elections. When politicians are not beholden to special interests, they can concentrate on doing the people's business, serving the interests of their constituents instead of the interests of their biggest donors. The integrity of the program must be protected".

**Tom Swan, Executive Director, CCAG**, "It is outrageous that major changes to our public financing program were snuck through in the middle of the night and then used as a tool to hold up other important legislation. This is unacceptable and must not pass in the House of Representatives.

