



Illinois Campaign Spending is Out of Control!

In 2006, Rod Blagojevich spent nearly **\$27 MILLION** (including the primary) to be elected Governor of Illinois! That's **\$15.39** for every vote he got in the General Election. Republicans spent over **\$21 million** – and they **lost**. One losing primary candidate spent over \$7 million or **\$90.55 per vote** received. Don't you think that's a lot of money to get a job that pays **\$155,600** a year?

The average **State Senate race cost \$644,000** and candidates spent an average of **\$302,000 on State Representative** elections, even though most of these elections were **uncontested**.

Where does all this money come from? Well, it's not from the grassroots – more than **90% of the contributions were for more than \$250**. And that's where "Pay" comes into "Play." Big contributors expect a return on their investment: special favors, no-bid contracts, subsidies and tax breaks.

What Can Citizens Do?

The **Illinois Clean Elections Campaign** is organizing to place this referendum on the ballot for Consolidated and General Elections in 2009 and 2010:

Shall the Illinois General Assembly enact "Clean Elections" legislation, a system whereby candidates voluntarily agree to accept limits on campaign contributions and spending, in return for public financing of campaigns for the General Assembly and statewide offices?

The **Illinois Clean Elections Act (HB1324)**, by establishing voluntary public financing and stopping "Pay for Play" will accomplish these primary objectives:

- Return the selection of candidates and elected officials for state-wide Illinois Constitutional offices as well as State Senator and State Representative to the citizens of Illinois.
- Open the election process to worthy individuals who can participate without the necessity of substantial personal fortune or indebtedness, either financial or political.
- Multi-partisan elections with more than just major party candidates having access to the ballot in both primaries and general elections.

The **Illinois Clean Elections Act (HB1324)** provides voluntary public financing of primary and general election candidates for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Attorney General, State Treasurer, State Comptroller, State Senator, and State Representative. In addition, **HB887** would extend public financing to campaigns for Justices of the Illinois Supreme Court and Appellate Courts.

The Act would amend the State Finance and Income Tax Acts to create the Illinois Clean Elections Fund for elections and to provide individual tax return checkoffs of \$3.00 (\$6.00 for couples filing jointly) to fund Clean Elections.

The Illinois State Board of Elections, as the administrator of the Fund, would be the rule-making and reporting agency for activities under the Act, determining qualifications for Illinois Clean Elections Act candidates and the amounts dispersed to candidates from the Fund. Clean Elections Act campaign contributions for primary and general elections:

Constitutional Office	Contested Primary	Contested General	Uncontested
State Representative	Average of expenditures for the preceding two primary or general elections		40% of Primary or General Election Amounts **
State Senator			
Governor	\$2,000,000	\$4,000,000	
Lieutenant Governor	\$500,000	None	
Secretary of State	\$500,000	\$2,000,000	
State Attorney General	\$500,000	\$2,000,000	
State Comptroller	\$200,000	\$800,000	
State Treasurer	\$200,000	\$800,000	

** The 40 percent level of expenditures for uncontested races provides funds for base level of campaign expenses and get-out-the-vote activities.



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The Illinois Clean Elections Campaign is a project of the Illinois Clean Elections Foundation, a non-partisan not-for-profit organization operating pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to the Illinois Clean Elections Foundation may be tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.