

FAIR ELECTIONS: MAKING ALBANY WORK FOR ALL NEW YORKERS



A campaign for comprehensive campaign finance reform, with small-donor matching. 200+ supporters call for 2019 passage.

New Yorkers deserve a responsive, accountable government. To tackle the crises we face in housing, living wage jobs, criminal justice, affordable health care, transportation, climate, fair taxes, and more, we must fix our campaign finance system, which favors the wealthy over everyday, working New Yorkers.

This year, leaders in Albany passed historic voting reforms that make it easier for New Yorkers to exercise their freedom to vote and participate in our democracy. Now, leaders must act to pass a small-donor matching system, with lower contribution limits, to truly increase the voices of average New Yorkers in the political process, and in turn lessen the power of big money.

While public financing of elections was a top budget issue, the Governor and the Legislature missed an opportunity to create a strong small-donor matching system outright, instead leaving critical details to a commission. **A broad coalition of 200+ groups across New York—who came together to ensure that comprehensive campaign finance reform, with a small-donor match, was included in the 2019 state budget—plan to hold leaders accountable to their promise to deliver Fair Elections reforms this year.** Fair Elections reform includes:

- ✓ **Increase the power of small donations.** It is critical we implement a small-donor matching system for state elections, including District Attorneys. This gives everyday people the means to run for office and represent their communities while relying on small donations instead of large checks. New York could lead the nation by becoming the first state since *Citizens United* to pass comprehensive campaign finance reform. By matching small-dollar donations with public funding — \$6-to-every \$1 raised — we can amplify the voices of women; of people of color; of the working and middle classes; and of any and all under-represented New Yorkers in the political process. Following the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision, small-donor matching funds remains the most powerful way to counter the unlimited, secret money flowing into our elections. Adequate enforcement as well as robust candidate support services would ensure the matching funds program runs smoothly.
- ✓ **Limit the influence of big money.** The very wealthy and corporations shouldn't be allowed to buy elections. The Governor and the Legislature took a step forward by shrinking the "LLC loophole," which allows mega donors to funnel limitless amounts to candidates. We can now put a check on the outsized influence of big donors by fully closing the LLC loophole and by reducing New York's unusually high contribution limits, among other improvements.
- ✓ **Protect New Yorkers' freedom to vote.** This year, New York passed historic voting reforms. We must continue to make it easier for New Yorkers to exercise their freedom to vote including by passing automatic voter registration and codifying into law New York's policy to extend voting rights to all New Yorkers with past convictions.

See reverse for list of 200+ Fair Elections supporters

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FairElectionsNY.org | @FairElectionsNY

200+ FAIR ELECTIONS SUPPORTERS

32BJ SEIU, 350.org, 50 West 93 Street Tenant Association, ACT18 Indivisible, Action Potluck, Action Together Rochester, Advocates for Justice Chartered Attorneys, African American Ministers in Action, ALIGN, Alliance for Quality Education, American Family Voices, American Pakistani Public Affairs Committee, Arab American Institute, Archer K Blood Center for Democracy, The Arena, Association of Tenants of Lincoln Towers, Ben & Jerry's, Bend the Arc, The Black Institute, BlackLine, Black Lives Matter Hudson Valley, Brennan Center for Justice, Briarcliff - Ossining Indivisible, Bronx Progressives, Brooklyn Community Bail Fund, Buffalo Democratic Socialists of America, Campaign for America's Future, Campaign for New York Health, Campaign Legal Center, Capital District Democratic Socialists of America, CCoHOPE Indivisible, Center for Popular Democracy, Central Park Gardens Tenants Association, CGDCNY, Chinese American Planning Council, Churches United For Fair Housing, Citizen Action New York, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW), The Civics Center, Cleanup Carl, Clean Water Action, Coalition for Economic Justice, Color of Change, Common Cause New York, Communities United for Police Reform Action Fund, Community Voices Heard, Concerned Citizens For Change, Cooper Square Committee, The Creative Resistance, CREDO Action, Criminal Justice Task Force, Roc/ACTS, Crown Heights Tenants Union, CWA District 1, CWA Local 1122, CWA Local 1133, CWA Local 1168, Daily Kos, Democracy 21, Democracy Initiative, Democracy Matters, Demos, Downtown Women for Change, Dutchess County Progressive Action Alliance, Empire State Indivisible, Empire State Progressives, End Citizens United, Equal Citizens, Erie County Green Party, Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island, Every Voice, Food & Water Watch, Four Freedoms Democratic Club, Franciscan Action Network, Free Speech For People, Friends of the Earth, The Gathering for Justice, Generation Citizen NY, Grassroots Action NY, Greater NYC for Change, Greenpeace, Housing Works, Inc., Human Services Council, Humanists of Long Island, Indivisible, Indivisible Beekman, Indivisible BlueBlast!, Indivisible Brooklyn, Indivisible CD16 NY, Indivisible CD19 NY, Indivisible Harlem, Indivisible Nation BK, Indivisible Scarsdale, Indivisible the Fight Is On, Indivisible We Stand Upper West Side, Indivisible Westchester, Jews for Racial & Economic Justice, Justice Ministries Committee, Presbytery of New York City, Labor-Religion Coalition of NYS, Left Action, Let's Visit Lee Zeldin, Long Island Activists, Long Island Civic Engagement Table, Long Island Jobs with Justice, Long Island Network for Change, Long Island Progressive Coalition, Long Island Together, Lower Hudson Valley Progressive Action Network, Main Street Alliance, Make the Road New York, MapLight, MAYDAY America, Metropolitan Council on Housing, Metro New York Health Care for All, Mid Suffolk Chapter of the National Organization for Women, Morningside Heights Resistance, Move Forward Staten Island, MoveOn, MPower Change, Muslims For Progress, National Action Network, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), National Council of Jewish Women, National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), New Progressive Alliance, New York City Loft Tenants, New York Civic Engagement Table, New York Communities for Change, New York Immigration Coalition, New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, New York Progressive Action Network, New York State Council of Churches, New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG), Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson, No IDC NY, North American Climate, Conservation and Environment (NACCE), Northeast NY Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health, Northwest Bronx Indivisible, NY19Votes, NYCAIC's #HALTsolitary campaign, NYCD16 Indivisible, NYC Democratic Socialists of America, NYS NAACP Conference of Branches, NYS Nurses Association (NYSNA), Open Buffalo, Our Revolution, Partnership for the Public Good, People Demanding Action, People For the American Way, People's Action, The People's Empowerment Project/Democracy Coffee, People Power Patchogue, Persist81, Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts, Presente.org, Progressive Action of Lower Manhattan, Progressive Change Campaign Committee, Progressive Democrats of America, Progressive East End Reformers (PEER), Progressive Power Inwood Heights, Progressive Schenectady, Progressive Turnout Project, Public Citizen, Putnam Progressives, Rally+Rise, Reinvent Albany, RepresentUs, Resist and Replace, Suffolk County, Showing Up for Racial Justice, Rochester (SURJ ROC), Rise and Resist, Riverside Edgecombe Neighborhood Association, ROCitizen, Rockaway Youth Task Force, Rockland Citizens Action Network, Rockland United, runNYC, RWDSU, SEIU, Sierra Club, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, Small Planet Institute, Solidarity Committee/Capital District, South Country Unites, Stand Up America, St Nicks Alliance, Strong Economy For All Coalition, Suffolk Progressives, Sunrise Movement, Sunrise NYC, Tenants and Neighbors, Tenants Political Action Committee, Theatre of the Oppressed NYC, Tioga Progressives, Transformative Justice Coalition, True Blue New York, Ulster People for Justice & Democracy, Union Vale Indivisible, Unitarian Universalist Association, Up2Us, Upper West Side MoveOn/Indivisible Action, Uptown Progressive Action, VOCAL-NY, Voter Rights Action, Washington County Progressives, We of Action New York, WESPAC Foundation, Inc, Westchester Citizen Therapists, Westchester for Change, and Working Families Party.

(List updated February 4, 2019)