



P.O. Box 5374
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November 15, 2021

To: Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones, and Councilmembers Jimenez, Peralez, Cohen, Carrasco, Davis, Esparza, Arenas, Foley, and Mahan

cc: San Jose City Clerk

Subject: An Ordinance to Amend San Jose Municipal Code Chapter 12.06 Related to Disclosures on Campaign Advertising

Item: #3.5, November 16 Council Meeting

The League of Women Voters San Jose/Santa Clara is pleased to **support the City Attorney's recommendations to fully incorporate the California Disclose Act (AB 249, 2017) into San Jose's Municipal Code.**

The president of the League of Women Voters of California stated the following in a support letter to Gov. Brown, "The League has a history of supporting the advertisement disclosures specified in this bill. Over the past seven years the League has strongly supported making disclosures clearly legible, and disclosing the true funders of advertisements, not simply bland committee names."

We also support the recommendation from Vice Mayor Jones and Councilmembers Jimenez, Cohen, Arenas and Foley to **reduce the cumulative contribution threshold for top contributors from \$5,000 to \$2,500.**

The League believes that the methods of financing political campaigns should

- enhance political equality for all citizens
- ensure maximum participation by citizens in the political process
- protect representative democracy from being distorted by big spending in election campaigns
- provide sufficient information about candidates and campaign issues to make informed choices
- 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
- combat corruption and undue influence in government.

In summary, the League of Women Voters of San Jose/Santa Clara, based upon our [national](#) and [state](#) positions on *Money In Politics*, urges swift action on the recommendations to align the Municipal Code with provisions in the Disclose Act.

Regards,

Carol M. Watts

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