

Get Big \$ Out of Politics We're Citizens, Corporations Aren't

It's not news that money talks. Corporations and the fat cats have way too much political power. That old problem has taken a big turn for the worse.

The richest 1% have *doubled* their slice of national income since 1980, so they buy a lot more influence.

The Supreme Court threw out almost all laws limiting corporate \$ in politics,
in the Citizens United decision, saying that corporations are "persons" with the same rights as actual citizens.

Of course some politicians are just plain stooges of the big corporations, but *all* politicians hesitate to make any moves that would bother their big contributors. On every issue (taxes, jobs, energy, environment, war, local university funding...) our government is being held hostage to corporate greed.

So we get the policies that *they* pay for.

On some issues, see:
<https://docs.google.com/open?id=0B9dsawny1m4LMzkxYzdjOWYtODY4Ni00MDIyLTgwOWItMDIhZGQwZjlkMjBl>



We won't get very far on those basic issues until we rein in the big \$ in politics.
There are many proposals for how to do this, but they all start with reversing the Citizens United decision.

Teach-in on the Citizens United decision

Thursday 1/19, 7-8 pm

1203 W. Nevada St. Urbana (nearest MTD lines 2, 10)

Check *Occupy the Quad* on Facebook for details

Join a national day of action, "Occupy the Courts".

Rally

for a constitutional amendment

to put citizens' rights above corporate rights

gather at 11:45am, Friday, Jan. 20

near the Federal Courthouse, Vine & Elm, Urbana

On MTD lines 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10

Want to take a little action now to help
limit the role of big money in politics?

Check this petition:
<http://movetoamend.org/node/2325>
It says that constitutional rights
belong to people, not corporations.



Contact us at: (574) 3URBANA; (574) 387-2262
or via <https://www.facebook.com/OccupyChampaignUrbana?sk=info>

Common Sense for the 99%

Where have all the dollars gone?

The richest 1% were getting about 23% of our national income leading up to the 2008 crash. The last time they got that big a slice (1929), the Great Depression hit. When our economy grew steadily (1945-1975), those 1% only took in about 10% of the national income. Just that *extra* money that the 1% now take runs about \$15,000 per year for every American household.

Taxes on the highest incomes ran 70% to 92% from 1945-1975, when our economy grew best, when we built the roads and bridges we still use today. Now the richest often pay less than 20%. Wall Street whines about even that.

Layoffs are hitting teachers, bus drivers, firefighters, nurses, and other essential public employees. Keeping those jobs is more important than tax breaks for the rich.

We need jobs building new energy and transportation systems for America. We need housing and schools. People are out of work now. What are we waiting for?

To get back on track, we need to control the banksters, regulating them again. We need to return to fair taxes on the rich, closing their loopholes. We need to give unions a fair chance to organize again for fair pay and benefits, instead of tilting the playing field for the corporations.

Our health care costs about twice as much per person as any other country's, at least *an extra \$3000 per person per year*. About \$1000 of that is pure waste due to inefficient private insurance. 50 million people don't have coverage. About a million per year are driven to bankruptcy by illness. The new healthcare law covers another 30 million, but doesn't go far enough.. We need something like Medicare- a program that really works- available to everyone. Instead, Congressional Republicans voted to replace Medicare with a skimpy private voucher plan.

The wars in the Middle East have cost an average family well over \$10,000 so far. We need to end those wars and spend the money on jobs at home- say to get clean renewable domestic energy.

Whether you agree or disagree,
we'd like to hear from you.

Let's talk. Contact us at:
(574) 3 URBANA;
[\(574\) 387-2262](tel:5743872262)



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