

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. J. RES. 45

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. SMITH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KING, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. PETERS, Mr. COONS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. SCHATZ) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

---

## JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

1        *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2        *of the United States of America in Congress assembled*  
3        *(two-thirds of each House concurring therein),* That the fol-  
4        lowing article is proposed as an amendment to the Con-  
5        stitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all  
6        intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when

1 ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several  
2 States:

3 “ARTICLE —

4 “SECTION 1. To advance democratic self-government  
5 and political equality, and to protect the integrity of gov-  
6 ernment and the electoral process, Congress and the  
7 States may regulate and set reasonable limits on the rais-  
8 ing and spending of money by candidates and others to  
9 influence elections.

10 “SECTION 2. Congress and the States shall have  
11 power to implement and enforce this article by appropriate  
12 legislation, and may distinguish between natural persons  
13 and corporations or other artificial entities created by law,  
14 including by prohibiting such entities from spending  
15 money to influence elections.

16 “SECTION 3. Nothing in this article shall be con-  
17 strued to grant Congress or the States the power to  
18 abridge the freedom of the press.”.

○