PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SUPREME COURT DECISION IS NO HELP FOR PROP. 25

LOS ANGELES — Today’s Supreme Court ruling on campaign contribution limits does nothing to undo Proposition 25’s fundamental problems, said Prop. 25 opponents. “Prop. 25 would still make politics in California, even more of a rich man’s game,” said Carol Evans, spokeswoman for Taxpayers for Fair Elections.

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld a Missouri law that sets limits on contributions to state candidates. California’s own contributions limits law is currently on hold, while a separate case is heard in state court.

“The Missouri decision does not stop Prop. 25’s legalization of soft money,” said Evans. “It does not undo Prop. 25’s advantage for millionaire candidates. And the court’s decision does not change Prop. 25’s $55 million cost to taxpayers.”

According to the League of Women Voters’ position paper, “Proposition 25 has exemptions for contributions to political parties that would write into California law the kind of ‘soft money’ loopholes that have plagued the presidential election’s public financing system.”

“The court’s decision does not make Prop. 25 any more effective or any more appealing,” said Evans, speaking for Taxpayers for Fair Elections. “Prop. 25 remains what it has always been — phony campaign reform that would take us backward, not forward. The only decision that could help Californians with Prop. 25, is the decision we make to reject this deeply-flawed proposition, when we vote on March 7th.”

Prop. 25 is opposed by the League of Women Voters of California, Daniel Lowenstein — founding chair of the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), Ben Davidian — former chair of the FPPC, Craig Holman — co-author of California’s 1996 campaign finance reform initiative, as well as the California Chamber of Commerce, Congress of California Seniors, the California Taxpayers’ Association and Consumer Federation of California.


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