
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND UNITED STATES
CONGRESS TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT BY THE PEOPLE ACT WHICH
STRIVES TO RETURN TO THE PRINCIPLE OF A GOVERNMENT OF, BY,
AND FOR THE PEOPLE.

1 WHEREAS, the atmosphere around politics has been tainted by
2 individuals who use money and power to try and manipulate the
3 system; and

4
5 WHEREAS, the voices of everyday Americans are not being
6 heard because excessively large donations dominate the financing
7 of campaigns; and

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9 WHEREAS, the Government By the People Act is the first step
10 to creating a government of, by, and for the people; and

11
12 WHEREAS, the Act has four key provisions dealing with
13 balancing the power between wealthy donors and donors who cannot
14 contribute as much to a campaign including:

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16 (1) Creating the Freedom from Influence Fund to match
17 contributions of up to \$150 to participating
18 candidates by a ratio of 6-to-1 or more;

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20 (2) Providing a \$25 refundable tax credit for small
21 contributions;

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23 (3) Providing enhanced matching funds in the final 60 days
24 of a general election for candidates in high cost
25 races; and

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27 (4) Creating people PAC's, or small donor committees, that
28 aggregate the voices and power of ordinary citizens
29 rather than wealthy donors; and

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31 WHEREAS, time and again, our government fails to produce
32 the policy outcomes that the majority of Americans support; from
33 strong investments in job creation, roads, and rails, to a



1 robust minimum wage and a fair tax burden for the top one
2 percent; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Government By the People Act employs three
5 basic strategies to accomplish its policy objectives in the
6 current electoral environment:
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- 8 (1) Amplifying the voices of ordinary citizens by matching
9 small contributions with public funds;
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- 11 (2) Empowering more Americans to participate in campaigns
12 by providing a tax credit for small political
13 contributions; and
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- 15 (3) Helping grassroots candidates fight back against
16 special interest outside spending by providing an
17 additional late-campaign match; and
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19 WHEREAS, these key elements combine with other features to
20 create a voluntary system that most candidates should ultimately
21 choose to use because it frees them from the burdens and
22 obligations of large-dollar fundraising and provides a more
23 attractive way to run for office that is responsive to current
24 campaign conditions; now, therefore,
25

26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
28 Session of 2014, that the President of the United States and the
29 United States Congress are urged to support the Government By
30 the People Act in order to maintain the integrity and legitimacy
31 of our democracy; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
35 President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, Speaker of
36 the United States House of Representatives, and Hawaii's
37 congressional delegation.
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OFFERED BY:

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