Statements of Support

The *Democracy for All Amendment* is backed by a broad range of campaign finance and government reform advocates, including End Citizens United, People For the American Way, Public Citizen, American Promise, Common Cause, Free Speech For People, and Union of Concerned Scientists.

"The *Citizens United* decision has polluted our democracy by allowing big money to silence the voices of everyday people. Americans are tired of a political system that too often works for the wealthy and well-connected at the expense of everyone else. We applaud Sens. Udall, Shaheen, and all the other cosponsors for introducing the Democracy for All amendment and their commitment to unrigging the system and ending the dominance of special interest money in politics." – Tiffany Muller, President of End Citizens United Action Fund

"Across the political spectrum, Americans want a constitutional amendment which will reclaim our democracy. The Democracy For All Amendment would allow for overall campaign spending limits and would end the big money dominance of our elections. We applaud the reintroduction of this amendment bill, and we urge the Senate to pass it and, with its companion bill in the House, advance it to the states for ratification." – John Bonifaz, the Co-Founder and President of Free Speech For People.

"When ultra-wealthy donors and multi-national corporations get to spend unlimited money in politics, they drown out the voices of everyday Americans and advance distorted policies that are pushed by special interests. As a result, our communities and our children often suffer. We commend Senator Udall and other Senators for introducing the Democracy for All Amendment, which, along with his For the People Act, will amplify the voices of ordinary Americans and reduce the role of big money out of politics to help ensure that we can all breathe clean air, drink clean water, and have affordable health care."— Aaron Scherb, Director of Legislative Affairs with the nonpartisan watchdog Common Cause

"The Center for Science and Democracy at the Union of Concerned Scientists is proud to join our allies in support of this bipartisan measure so that all Americans can meaningfully participate in our elections and government. We believe, in order to have effective policymaking, we need to prioritize the opportunities for Americans join in the democratic dialogue. Influencing the course of our public policies cannot be just for corporations and special interests. We stand in support of the Democracy for All Amendment as it will help foster a more representative democracy." — Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Ph.D., Director at the Center for Science and Democracy at the Union of Concerned Scientists.

"As one of the leading faith voices for democracy reform, the <u>Franciscan Action Network</u> welcomes the introduction of the Democracy for All Amendment. The Gospel of Matthew tells us that we must not serve God and money. (Matthew 6:24) <u>After hearing God's call to "rebuild His Church" a young St. Francis famously renounced his wealthy merchant father and all his</u>

<u>worldly possessions.</u> And, as Pope Francis calls on each of us to "<u>meddle in politics</u>" we interpret this call as a requirement that all Americans must have an equal say in the public square. The Democracy for All Amendment would overturn the *Citizens United* decision via constitutional amendment and allow all of our voices to be more equally heard in the democratic process. It is an essential step forward for our democracy that would more fully recognize the essential humanity and dignity of each American as we exercise our right at the ballot box." – Patrick Carolan, Executive Director at Franciscan Action Network

"In the nine years since the disastrous *Citizens United* ruling, big money has dominated our elections, too often drowning out the voices of the American people. Progressive Turnout Project and our supporters urge Senators to pass this amendment to restore some faith in our political process." – **Alex Morgan, Executive Director at Progressive Turnout Project**

"The bedrock of our democracy is a government of, by and for the people. But for too long now we have watched representative government be eroded by big money, special interests with extraordinary access, voter suppression and gerrymandering in order to privilege the Republican party in state and federal elections. It's been a stress test for the foundations this country was built on, and it's time for us to shore up our democratic infrastructure and return to the free and fair electoral ideals we have long cherished. H.J. Res 2 puts us back on a path toward true representative democracy, and we thank Senator Udall for introducing it." — Randi Weingarten, President of the American Federation of Teachers

"The influence of big money in our political system paralyzes progress on every one of the important issues of our time. We proudly stand with Senators Udall and Shaheen and our other allies in Congress as we move to advance the Democracy For All amendment." – Marge Baker, People For the American Way Executive Vice President

"The Citizen's United decision has given unprecedented power to Big Polluters, who have drowned out the voices from communities whose access to clean air and water have been impacted the most. We applaud Senators Udall, Shaheen and all of the cosponsors' efforts to overturn this disastrous decision and return the power back to the people, and we urge the Senate to take action." – Ben Driscoll, Judiciary Program Director at League of Conservation Voters.

"Americans across the political spectrum have pushed for this Amendment to take back our rights to participate as equal citizens in our government. With overwhelming support from millions of voters from Montana to New Hampshire, 20 states have demanded Congress take action to pass the 28th Amendment." – **Jeff Clements, President of American Promise.**

"Our democracy shouldn't be a pay to play system but that's exactly what the *Citizen's United* decision has turned it into. If we want to transform our government so that it represents and works for everyone, then we must pass the Democracy for All amendment. Immigrants, people of color, and other traditionally politically marginalized people are disproportionately impacted by this decision. This has to change if we ever want to create a democracy that is truly of, for,

and by all people, not just the privileged few. The Democracy For All amendment does just that and is why NALAF is proud to stand with Senator Udall and other partners in support of this amendment." – Sayu Bhojwani, Founder and President of New American Leaders Action Fund.

"Citizens United cemented the control of our politics by the super rich and giant corporations. Unlimited political spending translates into unlimited political influence. The direct result is that, while vast majorities of the American people want action on drug pricing, raising the minimum wage, protecting the planet, holding corporate criminals to account, delivering health care to all and more – action is stalled because those demands conflict with the interests of the corporate class. When we deliver a constitutional amendment to overturn the abomination of the Citizens United decision, we will be well on the way to making our democracy work and having a government that responds to the will of the people, rather than the megadonors." – Robert Weissman, President of Public Citizen

"We have to put an end to big money influencing our elections. Our elected officials can't allow special interests to control the democratic process any longer. We support Senator Tom Udall and his colleagues' leadership with H.J. Res. 2 the Democracy For All amendment to overturn Citizens United and prevent big business and special interests from spending unlimited amounts of money to try to skew our elections. Congress must put in place robust, comprehensive legislative reforms to ensure that people are at the center of our democracy and that urgent action is taken to protect our fragile climate. Congress must be climate champions and defenders of democracy before it's too late." — Annie Leonard, Executive Director at Greenpeace USA

Other supporters of the *Democracy for All Amendment* Include:

20/20 Vision

African Americans Ministers In Action

Alaska Public Interest Research Group (AkPIRG)

Alliance for Youth Action

American Federation of Teachers

American Promise

Blue Future

Brave New Films

Campaign for Accountability
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Media and Democracy

Center for Science and Democracy — Union of

Concerned Scientists Clean Elections Texas Clean Water Action

Coalition to Preserve, Protect & Defend

Coalition to Restore Democracy

CODE PINK Common Cause Common Defense

Communications Workers of America

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the

Good Shepherd

Corporate Accountability

Courage Campaign

Daily Kos

Democracy Matters

Disciples Justice Action Network End Citizens United Action Fund Endangered Species Coalition

Equal Citizens

Food & Water Watch Franciscan Action Network Free Speech For People Friends of the Earth

Get Money Out - Maryland

Global Witness Greenpeace Herd on the Hill Hip Hop Caucus Indivisible Kansas City

Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy International Corporate Accountability

Roundtable

Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement

League of Conservation Voters

LeftAction

Main Street Alliance MAYDAY America

MomsRising

MoveOn

MOVI, Money Out Voters In

NAACP

National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the

Good Shepherd

National Association of Social Workers National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund National Priorities Project at the Institute for

Policy Studies

NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice

New American Leaders Action Fund New Mexicans for Money Out of Politics North American Climate, Conservation and

Environment(NACCE)

Occupy Bergen County (New Jersey)

Pay 2 Play Peace Action

People For the American Way

People's Action
Pride at Work

Progressive Turnout Project

Public Citizen

Reclaim Our Democracy

RootsAction.org Sierra Club

Small Planet Institute Stamp Stampede Stand Up America Take On Wall Street

Unitarian Universalist Association

Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ) United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness

Ministries

United For Democracy United To Amend UnKoch My Campus Win|Win Network

Wisconsin Democracy Campaign

Wolf PAC

Youth Progressive Action Catalyst