

Andrea Gyger

From: H Krening [REDACTED]
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To: Andrea Gyger
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Categories: Rules

To whom it may concern,

As a voter and a citizen who wishes to have freedom of speech for every individual and group protected, I am very concerned about the current state of Campaign Finance rules, which make it extremely difficult for all citizens, rich or poor, armed with lawyers or not, to practice political activism.

I am grateful to Secretary of State Scott Gessler for his work to make the present rules more reasonable and understandable. The grassroots activist, with limited time and funds, suffers the most from having complicated, time-consuming regulations and draconian penalties over his or her head, as well as privacy and personal safety concerns. Current rules make it easier for incumbents and the status quo, but harder for those with ideas that challenge and promote innovation and change in the political arena. The number of people who do not donate, and who abandon or do not begin political activism can only grow under the current system. This not only makes for stagnant politics; is an injustice and a violation of a fundamental individual right: the right to speak freely.

Ultimately, the premises that campaign regulations rest on must be questioned, but in the mean time, I hope Mr. Gessler's proposed rule changes will stand.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Hannah Krening
Larkspur, Colorado 80118
[REDACTED]