

Andrea Gyger

From: Richard Watts [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2011 8:00 PM
To: Andrea Gyger
Subject: My comment on proposed changes to Colorado's campaign finance rules

Hello,

I'm writing in support of the following proposed rule changes:

- Raise the reporting threshold for issue committees from \$200 to \$5,000.
- Set clear rules for penalties, with waivers granted for good cause, reduced penalties for first-time violators, and a 180-day cap on daily \$50 fines.
- Clarify that "express advocacy" for or against a candidate or party is required for "electioneering communication," which requires any person or group spending over \$1,000 to register with the state, create a new bank account, and file reports.
- Permit people who fear for their safety due to information disclosed on any campaign finance report to request that such information be omitted from the public records.

Please implement those changes. They are a step in the right direction, by way of decreasing restriction of election-related speech. (Any regulation of campaign finance is a violation of free speech rights. But less restriction is good.)

- However, I adamantly oppose the increased reporting requirements in rules 10.1 and 10.2. Please do not implement these, as they further restrict campaign finance.

I appreciate your efforts toward freedom of speech!

Richard Watts
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