



News from

Office of the Attorney General
55 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Attorney General

Richard Blumenthal

For
Immediate
Release

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2009

ATTORNEY GENERAL WILL FIGHT FEDERAL COURT RULING THAT STRIKES CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW

"My office will appeal and seek an immediate stay of this decision, which misapplies constitutional doctrine to strike down our state's campaign finance reform system. This decision is only one ruling by one lower-court judge, but it could create significant legal obstacles to campaign finance reform efforts here and around the country. It deserves and needs review by an appellate court.

"As the judge recognized, this law was adopted by the legislature and governor in response to a regrettable legacy of improper and corrupt practices pervading all levels of elected office in recent decades. The law sought to increase transparency and integrity of our political process -- a compelling public interest that the judge failed to properly weigh.

"Our campaign finance reform is eminently important and constitutionally defensible. The ruling conflicts substantially with U.S. Supreme Court precedent and principles.

"This decision could destroy sweeping safeguards against campaign abuse -- including bans against lobbyist and corporation contributions; limits on individual contributions; and requirements that candidates demonstrate significant voter support before they receive taxpayer money."

END