

PRESS RELEASE

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Common Cause in Connecticut's statement on Judge Underhill's ruling on the Green Party Case against the Citizens' Election Program

Connecticut can't return to the days when we were known as "Corrupticut". That's why Common Cause in Connecticut will work with the Connecticut Attorney General's office to file an immediate stay of Judge Underhill's overreaching decision to strike down a few provisions of CTs landmark Citizens' Election Program, which prevents the state from administrating the rest of the law.

Karen Hobert Flynn, Vice President of State Operations for Common Cause said, "I don't believe the states elected officials will follow judge Underhill over the cliff. His decision was selective in his use of the factual record, ignored important legal precedent, and demonstrated little judicial restraint. We are confident it will be overturned on appeal. Common Cause in Connecticut will work with Speaker Donovan, Senator Williams, Governor Rell and the General Assembly to insure the law's funding and provisions remain intact while an expedited appeal of this radical decision is pending."

Let's not let one judge obscure the fact that this law is very popular among voters and candidates alike: 73% of state candidates participated in this historic program in its first election cycle in 2008, and 81% of those serving in the 2009 Connecticut General Assembly are Citizens' Elections officials. Similar provisions in other states have been upheld and we are hopeful that the second circuit will overturn this decision.

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