

Money in Politics - Fast Facts

- Money in Politics, from the US presidential race to local elections, adversely affects almost every issue the LWV stands for. www.LWV.org
- In 2022 legislators in Michigan, on average, only received 11% of money for their campaigns from the people that they were elected to represent. www.Mlive.com
- The 2022 elections were the most expensive midterms ever, and *just a handful of big donor families gave more than all 3.7 million small donors.* This excess influence imbalance drowns out everyday voters' voices. <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/most-expensive-election-ever>
- From 2016 to 2020 overall Election spending increased 122% to more than 14 BILLION dollars!!! www.OpenSecrets.org
- Lower costs make it relatively easy for secret/dark money to dominate state and local elections. Usually low-information elections, where it may not take much advertising to sway voters. www.NewAmericanJournal.net
- In 2020, secret/dark money nonprofits - that do not disclose their donors - reported spending to the Federal Election Commission of more than 968 million dollars on "issue ads" targeting candidates online and on the airwaves. www.INSIDERADIO.COM
- **Redboxing**, a practice that effectively evades the donation limits law. www.NYTimes.com
- Politicians can set up a backdoor/pass-through fund and direct their donors to make anonymous donations and then not have to tell the IRS where the money came from. www.NPR.org
- Increased money in politics feeds partisan divide and incivility, with a lasting impact on our democracy. www.LWV.org
- Minors, trusts, as well as corporations, can contribute to political campaigns. See how @ www.fec.gov
- Secret/Dark Money has even affected our Supreme Court. It was the plan. See [ThePowellReport](#)
- All parties are donating dark/secret money. This is not a partisan issue. www.OpenSecrets.org
- The cost of running for election has increased astronomically and is out of reach for most ordinary citizens. www.OpenSecrets.org
- The amount of time legislators have to spend fundraising interferes with their time spent doing their jobs for us the American people. www.IssueOne.org
- 77% of the public says "there should be limits on the amount of money individuals and organizations" can spend on political campaigns. It's a nonpartisan concern. www.PewResearch.org
- Legislation to change parts of Campaign Finance Law can be overturned in the next legislature. It is very difficult to overturn Constitutional Amendments. www.AmericanPromise.net
- In a ranking of U.S. states' anti-corruption protection, Michigan is 47th, largely because the state has almost no independent oversight of elected officials. - MLive.com



SHOW MI THE MONEY!

2023 Campaign Finance Reform Lobby Day Partners

