



Candidate Questionnaire

CleanSlateNow Action is committed to eliminating the corrupting influence of special interest money in politics. We believe candidates best represent the public interest by choosing to accept contributions only from individuals. We encourage candidates to reject contributions from political action committees, special interest groups, and corporations. We are active in Denver, throughout Colorado, and across the country.

The questions below are meant to provide information to voters about the kind of campaign contributions you are taking in your pursuit of public office and the kind of legislation you would support and propose if you take office. Your answers will also help us when considering if we will endorse a candidate in your race. Though we publicize the names of candidates who do not take PAC and special interest group money, no question is meant to serve as a litmus test. We seek to inform, educate, and engage you, other candidates, elected officials, and the public about issues surrounding campaign finance reform, and we hope the information you provide will help voters make up their own minds about the candidates. Please complete and return the questionnaire by February 15, 2018, if possible, or as soon as you can to be of use to voters.

Thank you for your participation, and good luck in your campaign!

<u>Levi Tillemann</u>	<u>CD 6 Representative</u>
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1. If elected, will you actively seek to enact meaningful campaign finance reform of the following forms?
 - a. Support overturning Citizens United? Yes ~~No~~
 - b. Ban contributions in local elections from corporations, unions, and other organizations banned from donating to state office campaigns? Yes ~~No~~
 - c. Limit special interest group contributions? Yes ~~No~~

- d. Incentivize small-dollar contributions (\$150 or less) from individuals with matching funds? Yes No
- e. Enact public financing of elections? Yes No

Are there other reforms you would propose?

Pass the “We The People Amendment”, HJR 48

Support the Citizen Equality Act and campaign finance vouchers for every voter to spend on candidates as they choose.

Enforce and revise as necessary laws requiring that the public airways serve the interest of the public good.

Pass legislation protecting net neutrality to ensure equal access to candidates and political movements and allow them to get their messages out via the internet.

- 2. Will you accept, or have you accepted contributions from special interest groups or organizations, including political committees, political action committees, or small donor committees? (This does not include political party contributions.)

Yes No

- 3. Will you accept, or have you accepted contributions from Leadership PACs (a committee an elected official uses to donate to other candidates and elected officials, separate from their candidate committee)?

Yes No

- 4. Will you establish, or have you established your own Leadership PAC?

Yes No

- 5. Will you accept, or have you already accepted contributions from large corporations (i.e., offices in more than one locality, or based out of your state with a regional or national focus)?

Yes No

- 6. Will you accept, or have you already accepted contributions from small corporations (presence in only one locality, i.e., “Mom-and-Pop Shop”)?

Yes No

- 7. Will you accept, or have you already accepted money from lobbyists?

Yes No

- 8. Will you accept, or have you already accepted money from unions?

Yes No

- 9. Do you support The Democracy for The People Initiative, which is on the November 2018 ballot and requires the disclosure of dark money in Denver

elections, the banning of corporations from making direct contributions to Denver municipal candidates, the lowering of Denver's relatively high campaign contribution limits to be on a scale with the limits for state offices, and the establishment of a public financing system for elections, providing matching funds for small-dollar donations (\$50 and less) to candidates who opt not to accept special interest money? Yes ~~No~~

May we list you as an endorser? Yes ~~No~~

Would you work to bring a similar reform to your community? Yes ~~No~~

10. Please use as much additional space as you'd like to share any thoughts about campaign finance reform and the role of special interest money vs. contributions from individuals in political campaigns.

Signature

Date

Completed questionnaires may be scanned and emailed to Owen@CleanSlateNowAction.org or mailed to CleanSlateNow Action at P.O. Box 100093, Denver, Colorado 80250.

If elected I will keep campaign finance reform at the top of my priorities. I will co-sponsor the "We The People Amendment", HRJ 48, and actively work to pass this constitutional amendment which will 1.) overturn *Citizens United* and similar Supreme Court precedents and re-establish that corporations are not people and money does not equal speech under the constitution; and 2.) require every level of government to pass laws preventing the undue influence of money that is destroying our democracy. I will also propose legislation to provide for public funding of campaigns and other approaches to ensure the transparency of donations, but more importantly, to enable candidates to compete for votes on the basis of their qualifications, values and ideas, and not just their ability to out-raise their opponents. Meanwhile, in my race I am refusing to accept any PAC money.

The corruption of our politics cannot be overstated. Money determines which candidates are deemed viable, and which can afford to get their message out directly or via media outlets. It determines what issues are addressed and what positions are taken (or avoided) in campaigns. It requires Congress to spend most of its time soliciting donations instead of studying issues and reviewing legislation. It not only influences votes in Congress; it sets the agenda for what is considered. How many Americans' top priority for 2017 was giving over a trillion dollars to the richest corporations?

We will not solve our pressing problems like gun violence, education, healthcare, criminal justice, climate change, the economy, and on and on, unless and until we root out the decimating influence of big money.