

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

**Goal is to Develop Widespread Understanding of MIP Throughout CO
— A Part of LWVCO Campaign to Make Democracy Work For All —**

Discussions among local League members attending the CO Convention

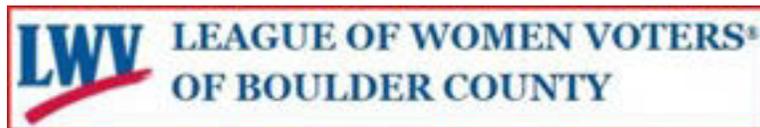
1. Show LET'S TALK MIP video to your local League Board before showing to total group (6 min plus discussion at next Board meeting).
2. Discuss possibility of forming a local Campaign Finance Reform Committee/Team (members who attended CO Convention may form the initial core group).
3. Begin development of your local plan for sharing MIP information.

Presentations for members of your local League

1. Present the LET'S TALK MIP video to total group at first opportunity; repeat as appropriate during next year (e.g., at first general meeting next fall, at unit meetings next fall, etc.); allow time for Questions and Discussion. Select Handouts and/or other tools as appropriate for audience and time available.
2. If no general meeting is scheduled any time soon, you may want to start with various committees or subgroups of your local League.
3. Enlist members' assistance in identifying community groups where MIP slide show could be presented (see below for list of types of groups you might consider).
4. Encourage members to join the CFR Committee/Team — allow for flexible time commitments.
5. Be sure to always allow enough time for questions and discussion so that members become **able to answer basic questions** about MIP when asked by family, friends, neighbors, or any community member.

Scheduling Presentations for other community groups/organizations/places

1. Develop a letter or flyer with information about your local League and a brief description of MIP, why it is important for CO residents to understand MIP, and that your local League is able and willing to do such a presentation. Make sure it is clear that the video and discussion could be completed in 10 minutes as a part of any meeting they might be holding. Letter or flyer could be mailed or hand delivered to each group/facility. Hand delivering by a League member has the advantage of being able to determine the best contact person to talk with for subsequent planning.
2. Create a list of groups, organizations, places, etc. where it might be possible to present the 6-min slide show and have a brief Q and A session. Each entry on the list should include name and location (if applicable) for the group/organization as well as contact information.
3. For those groups that do not have a designated location or office (e.g., Optimist, Rotary, University Women, etc), call the president or secretary of the organization to get the name of the person in charge of planning/arranging programs.



4. Designate someone to be keeper and organizer of the continually growing list of potential groups or places that the LET'S TALK MIP video and discussion could be conducted. Add information resulting from any further contacts, including dates and names of individuals.
5. Designate one or more people to do the initial calling. Ideally you will be able to talk with the same person that received the letter or flyer. However, be prepared for all manner of unexpected issues. Anticipate that the contact person will need to speak with others before making a decision. If the contact person has not called you back within a couple of weeks, reach out to her/him again.
6. If the contact person indicates that the group/organization is "not interested at this time", ask if it would be alright for League to call again in about 4 to 6 months.

Planning for presentations

1. Inquire about the meeting space. In cases where no local League member is familiar with the facility, it might be wise to visit the facility to see what issues might need to be resolved.
2. Inquire about electrical equipment, screens, table space, or anything else that might be needed. In some small group settings, the video might be shown on a computer screen.
3. Ask for an estimate of the number of people that might be in attendance so that you can bring handouts. Plan to bring a complete set of handouts to the contact person so he/she can make additional copies if anyone asks for them later.
4. After planning is complete, prepare an email to send to the contact person that provides the pertinent details. Copy this email to the local League member(s) who will be doing the presentation.
5. Designate someone to develop and continually update a presentation calendar.

Possible Groups/Organizations/Places to Consider for Presentations

Community Agencies — Senior Center, YWCA, YMCA, Volunteer Organizations

Civic Groups/Organizations/Clubs — Optimists, Rotary, University Women, Volunteers

Business Associations — Small Business Owners, Clerical Workers, Farmer Groups

Senior Citizen Residences — Independent Living or Assisted Living

Educational Agencies — Faculty, Staff or Students in Community Colleges and 4 yr Colleges (for some courses); Parent-Teacher Organizations; Teacher Unions

Political Party Organizations — Republican Women, Democratic Women, Other groups

Government — Work Sessions or Retreats for Town Board, City Council, County Commissioners; Staff of Town, City and County

Home Owners Associations

Campaign Finance Reform Toolkit

ORGANIZATIONS, WEBSITES

Bibliography: Campaign Finance and Political Corruption (LWV of Massachusetts, 2014)
<https://lwvma.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Bibliography-Campaign-Finance-and-Political-Corruption.pdf>

Common Cause: Americans for Campaign Reform

<http://www.commoncause.org/about/our-impact/coalition-partners/americans-for-campaign-reform.html>
This informative website contains current news on federal and states' legislation, results from states practicing publicly funded elections, and more.

Every Voice Center <http://www.everyvoicecenter.org>

This website contains information about publicly financed campaigns. Be sure to watch the video "Clean Elections, Changing the face of America"

The Brennan Center for Justice brennancenter.org

Democracy 21: Empowering Small Donors in Federal Elections
democracy21.org

Common Cause: Holding Power Accountable commoncause.org

Represent U.S.: A Movement for the People represent.us

Rootstrikers rootstrikers.org

Reclaim the American Dream reclaimtheamericandream.org

Follow the Money . . .

OpenSecrets.org: Center for responsive politics
<http://www.opensecrets.org>

Sunlight Foundation: Making government accountable and transparent
<https://sunlightfoundation.com>

MapLight: Revealing money's influence on politics
<http://maplight.org>

Colorado Campaign Finance Tracer website
<http://tracer.sos.colorado.gov/PublicSite/Search.aspx>

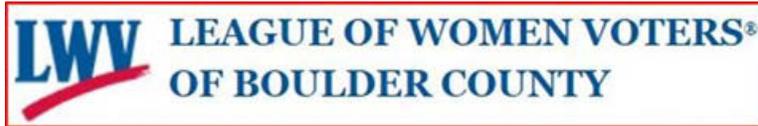
LWVUS: MONEY IN POLITICS

Money in Politics: Developing a Common Understanding of the Issues. A Primer for Engagement of League Members and Fellow Citizens (LWV of the United States, 2014)
Linked from http://lwv.org/content/money-politics-developing-common-understanding-issues?utm_source=LeadersUpdate&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=LU20140529

Study Guide to Money in Politics with consensus questions (LWVUS) is available at
[+http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/study-guide-money-politics-consensus](http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/study-guide-money-politics-consensus)

Money In Politics consensus questions with links to the background papers (LWVUS) are available at <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/money-politics-consensus-questions-links-background-papers>

Money in Politics Slide Show (PowerPoint, LWVUS) outlines the need for regulating money in politics.
<http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/money-politics-mip-powerpoint-presentation-and-script>



What is the state of our Democracy?

- One party controls both Houses of the U.S. Congress, the Presidency, the Supreme Court and both houses of 32 state legislatures and 31 state governors.
- Money in Politics, along with years of strategic planning by ALEC (the American Legislative Exchange Council), a [nonprofit organization](#) of [conservative state legislators](#) and [private sector](#) representatives has enabled one party to take over our government
- Under Article V of the U.S. Constitution, if 34 state legislatures "issue a call" for a constitutional convention, Congress must convene one. Currently, only six more states are needed. It would then be possible to rewrite the U.S. Constitution.

What can we do?

- Not rely on paid political advertisements for information about candidates.
- Learn about the issues an incumbent candidate supports, votes made and issues cosponsored. Information can be found on their website, telephoning staff members in their offices and attending candidate forums.
- Learn about non-incumbent candidates through candidate forums, literature on their backgrounds and public speeches.
- Support and help to bring anti-corruption laws with strong enforcement teeth and publicly financed campaigns to your city and state. The initiative process is available to every Colorado City.
- Pay attention to money involved in your local elections.



Fighting Money in Politics

Represent.us

LWVCO Coalition Partner

Represent.us Mission Statement: “We are building a fiercely non-partisan movement to pass tough anti-corruption laws in cities and states across America, and end the legalized corruption that has come to define modern politics.”

Represent.us Director: Josh Silver, “a veteran election and media reform executive. He was the campaign manager for the successful 1998 Arizona Clean Elections ballot initiative campaign and is the cofounder and former CEO of Free Press.” To see all the staff members go to represent.us.

Represent.us Anti- Corruption Act: Crafted by former Federal Election Commission chairman Trevor Potter in consultation with dozens of strategists, democracy reform leaders and constitutional attorneys from across the political spectrum. “It sets the standard for local, state and federal laws that Fix our broken elections, Stop political bribery and End secret money.”

How Represent.us Does It

“Together, we’re going around Congress. Represent.us members bring powerful anti-corruption reforms to the ballot, where people can vote for them directly. (No politicians required.)” They use the initiative process that is available to all cities in Colorado.

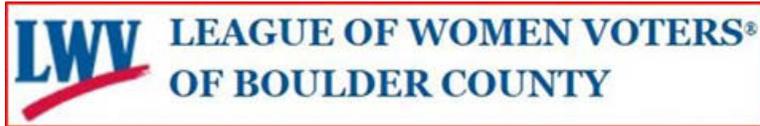
“Since 2014 conservatives and progressives worked together to pass Anti-Corruption Acts and Resolutions in 30 cities and states across America.”

“In 2016 Represent.us members passed the first statewide Anti-Corruption Act in South Dakota. Soon after, the state legislature brazenly repealed it.

“In 2018 members are fighting back in South Dakota with a statewide Anti-Corruption Amendment that politicians can’t repeal or change. Members are headed to the ballot in 4 to 8 more states and dozens of cities nationwide.”

Represent.us provides extensive support to members.

Contact Person: Jenny Landon, jenny@represent.us, 413 585-8100 ext. 45



Resources for Information in "Let's Talk Money in Politics" Video

Slide

- #3 Money from Individuals: sunlightfoundation.com/2015/04/30/
- #4 Money from corporations: sunlightfoundation.com/2014/11/17/
- #5 Cost of 2016 Federal Elections: www.opensecrets.org/overview/
- #6 Outside Spending in Colorado: www.opensecrets.org/expends/
- #7 Dark Money: www.opensecrets.org/news/
- #8 Fund raising: www.opensecrets.org/dark-money/basics/

Common Abbreviations

CFR: Campaign Finance Reform

FEC: Federal Election Commission

MIP: Money in Politics

PAC: Political Action Committee

PFC: Publicly Financed Campaigns