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Chair Williamson and members of the House Rules Committee,

I support HJM 201. We need to reverse political inequality that arises from inordinate money in politics. Political inequality goes hand in hand with income and wealth inequality. Trying to dissect this is the chicken or the egg problem.

But what really matters is that American democracy is threatened. With unlimited secret money pouring into U.S. political campaigns, President Carter¹ has said: *It violates the essence of what made America a great country in its political system. Now it's just an oligarchy with unlimited political bribery being the essence of getting the nominations for president or being elected president. And the same thing applies to governors, and U.S. Senators and congress members. So, now we've just seen a subversion of our political system as a payoff to major contributors, who want and expect, and sometimes get, favors for themselves after the election is over.*

In 2013, Oregon became the 16th state to call for an amendment to overturn Citizens United.² Now we need to go the extra step. The legislature should call for a constitutional convention to put pressure on Congress to act.³

Respectfully,
Kris Alman

¹ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/eric-zuesse/jimmy-carter-is-correct-t_b_7922788.html

² <http://truth-out.org/buzzflash/commentary/item/18064-oregon-amendment-citizens-united>

³ <http://thecontributor.com/bypass-congress-overturn-citizens-united>