

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-_____
RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL No. 583
CALIFORNIA CLEAN MONEY AND FAIR ELECTIONS ACT OF 2006

WHEREAS, the current campaign finance system burdens candidates with fundraising responsibilities and thus decreases time available to carry out their public responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, because the increasing costs of political campaigns in competitive races forces most candidates to raise larger amounts of money from interest groups that may have a specific financial stake in the outcome of the elections and in matters before our state government, the current campaign finance system is viewed by many as fueling a public perception of a conflict of interest, at best, and undermining public confidence in the democratic process and institutions, at worst; and

WHEREAS, the current campaign finance system is further perceived by many to undermine the First Amendment right of voters and candidates to be heard in the political process; and

WHEREAS, because of legislative reapportionment, many legislative campaigns are not competitive and candidates do not have to spend huge amounts of money to be elected. However, in competitive elections costs can exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000). This law is designed to address both situations by providing less public funds in noncompetitive races and larger amounts of public funding in competitive contests. By doing this, the California Clean Money and Fair Elections Act of 2006 would save the taxpayers of California from expending public money unnecessarily for noncompetitive races.

WHEREAS, the California Clean Money and Fair Elections Act of 2006 would address these problems by providing a substantial and comprehensive solution to the influence of money and "special interests" in politics with effective public financing of state-wide elections.

WHEREAS, the County of Marin Board of Supervisors is concerned about the increasing role that money plays in elections and believes it is time for a major change in the way we finance election campaigns.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marin County Board of Supervisors joins with the California Clean Money Campaign in publicly supporting the establishment of voluntary Clean Money public financing of election campaigns in California and urge the Legislature to pass AB 583, the California Clean Money and Fair Elections Act, which would provide public financing for elections for all of California's statewide and legislative offices.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held on this ____th day of _____, 2006, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS

NOES:

ABSENT:

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

CLERK