

Supreme Court Ruling a Threat to our Country and our District

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Fri, Jan 22, 2010 at 5:49 PM



Dear Rottenchester,

Yesterday, the Supreme Court made a fundamental and misguided step in the wrong direction. In the case of Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission, the John Roberts' Supreme Court ruled that private corporations can spend as much money as they want to undermine grassroots campaigns such as ours. For years, I've campaigned on a platform of "Clean Money/Clean Elections" -- reforms that would remove the influence of special interests and political action committees from the process of elections, but this ruling makes this kind of sweeping and comprehensive reform even more difficult. In fact for four long years we fueled our efforts exclusively on grassroots contributions and it was only when the opposition once again refused to follow our lead that I accepted contributions from American industries. I was the only Congressional candidate to do what I did for the four long years that we campaigned together.

As we move into the 2010 election season, we now know that there will be several yet-to-be-determined challenges ahead of us because of this ruling. In my first year in Congress, we took a successful and meaningful stance against Time Warner when they tried to implement an unfair and predatory plan to gouge Internet customers. We have also engaged in fights with several HMO's that have refused to honor their contracts with the families of this District right when they needed their healthcare coverage the most.

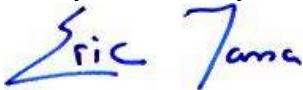
[Now that corporations can spend unlimited amounts of money on advertisements, our seat is at even greater risk, but you can help fight back by clicking here to make a grassroots online contribution \\$20.10 or more today.](#)

I've had to take several independent stances in the last year, but those of us that stand on the side of middle income families rather than corporate special interests are 100% united in our opposition to this ruling. We need to establish fair election practices and regulations, but none of that will happen if corporate lobbyists are successful in destroying every grassroots movement that supports people over Wall Street profits.

Political experts around the nation have been calling this a top targeted seat for over a year, and [your contribution of any amount right now](#) will help lead our movement against our opponents who will now be armed with unlimited corporate resources.

In the five years that I've campaigned and served the families of the 29th Congressional District, I've always placed my faith in people-powered politics above all else, and though this ruling presents new challenges, I know that we will prevail. We cannot underestimate the difficulty that this new hurdle will present and with your help early in the campaign, we will have the resources to protect this seat in November. [Please donate \\$20.10 or more online today.](#)

Thank you for all that you have done and will do in the next 284 days,



P.S. - We need your help to protect this frontline seat in Congress, so please consider forwarding this onward...



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