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Aaron Miller, Chair
Michigan House Elections & Ethics Committee
Room N-993 Anderson Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

September 17, 2017

RE: Please read this letter during the House Elections and Ethics hearing on Senate Bill 335, and then enter it into the record of this hearing.

Dear Chairman Miller:

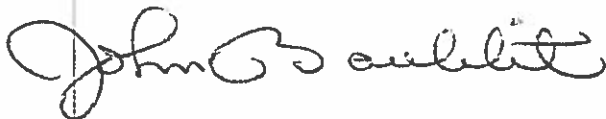
I am writing to you because you are the Chairman of The Michigan House Elections & Ethics Committee about the serious corruptive influences that SB-335 will promote and create if it is ever allowed to pass in the Michigan House of Representatives and then signed by our Governor.

As a retiree living on a fixed income while medical bills mount, I do not have the financial means to donate money to political campaigns. I feel that am at a great disadvantage for receiving the same representation as the wealthy, large corporations, and unions. I feel that my work to advocate for causes that are important to me will always take back seats to those who donate large sums of money even though I have always paid my fair share of taxes with the expectation of equal representation. Bottom line is that I want my local, state, and a national government to represent me as well as it does for those who donate large sums of campaign money. I also want my elected representatives to devote all of their work hours to serving the public rather than spending most of it fund raising for the next campaign.

Here are some good reasons why SB-335 is really bad for our Michigan Democracy:

1. SB-335 allows more dark money in political campaigns, which will not fix Michigan's broken political system. SB-335 allows more unlimited campaign contributions with donor secrecy.
2. SB-335 will concentrate power even more effectively in the hands of a few billionaires. It's not supposed to matter how much money you have, but SB-335 makes that true.
3. SB-335 allows more "coordination" between the candidate and Super PAC's, which the Citizen United decision had never intended. SB-335 seems like Citizens United on steroids to me.
4. Michigan needs more transparency not less. Any changes to campaign finance law should increase transparency. SB-335 makes the system less transparent and closes the distance between candidates and donors.
5. Citizens United is the law of the land, however, SB-335 makes it much worse for us here in Michigan.

Sincerely,



John Baublitz

Cc: Representative Adam Zemke
Senator Rebekah Warren