



The League of Women Voters of New York State
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**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS**
of New York State

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF:

S.8081 / Sampson

A.11350 / Silver

TO: NYS Senate

DATE: June 24, 2010

SUBJECT: *An act to amend the election law, in relation to political communication, independent expenditure reporting, enforcement proceeding and penalties for violations.*

The League of Women Voters of New York State ***strongly supports*** the above referenced legislation which is necessary because of the 2010 decision of the United State Supreme Court, *Citizens United v Federal Election Commission*, 558 U.S. 50.

This legislation would require greater disclosure and transparency of campaign finance information and provide for independent expenditure reporting. S.8081 proposes to prohibit candidates, political parties and committees from falsely identifying the source of political communications. It also requires the identification of the source of independent expenditures for political communications in support of or in opposition to candidates and ballot proposals to promote transparency and accountability.

The League of Women Voters believes that it is necessary to disclose political contributions in order to ensure the public's right to know, combat corruption and undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office and promote citizen participation in the political process.

For the above reasons, the League of Women Voters of New York State strongly urges your support of S.8081.