

WHEREAS, Potrero Hill Democratic Club has endorsed AB 1648, the California DISCLOSE Act, authored by Assemblymember Julia Brownley, to require full disclosure, in the ads themselves, of the largest major funders of all political television, radio, print, mass mailing, and online advertising for and against ballot measures and for independent expenditures for and against candidates; and

WHEREAS, despite polls showing that an overwhelming majority of the voters want this kind of increased disclosure, the California legislative Republican caucuses have taken a hard line stance against AB 1648, therefore making it virtually impossible for AB 1648 to receive the 2/3 vote required to pass it without putting it on the ballot; and

WHEREAS, the Speaker of the Assembly and the majority in the Legislature have broad powers to use the rules of the Assembly to turn the California DISCLOSE Act into a majority vote measure to put it on the ballot, and forty-three Democratic Assemblymembers (including Tom Ammiano and Fiona Ma), one Independent Assemblymember, are co-authors of AB 1648, as are State Senators Leno and Yee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Potrero Hill Democratic Club urges Assembly Speaker John Pérez and the Democratic majority of the Legislature to take whatever legislative measures are necessary to put the California DISCLOSE Act on the ballot with a majority vote of the Assembly, whether as AB 1648 or as another bill with substantially the same language; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Francisco Democratic Party urges Assembly Appropriations Chair Felipe Fuentes and other members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee to quickly approve any minor additional cost of putting it on the ballot because of the high priority of ensuring that the voters are aware of who pays for political ads.

Submitted by

Joni Eisen
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