

California Common Cause supports full public-financing of political campaigns for the following reasons:

- Candidates with good ideas will not be discouraged from running for office because they can't afford to campaign.
- Incumbent fundraising advantages are lessened – gives all potential candidates a fair and equal opportunity to get their message out.
- Helps achieve the democratic ideal that respected community leaders – no matter how poor – can run for office.
- Creates more competitive races with wider diversity of candidates.
- Means that politicians spend less time fundraising and more time legislating and listening to all constituents.
- Increases discussion and debate on issues.
- Saves money in campaigns by lowering fundraising costs and setting spending limits.
- Lessens the corrupting role of money. Reduces candidates' reliance on big contributions and special interests.
- Restores the principle of equality – “one person, one vote” – destroyed by disproportionate influence of campaign contributions.
- Decreases alienation of voters who currently believe their vote doesn't count because politicians are bought.
- Legislation and social policy is created which is in the interests of all citizens, not just wealthy contributors.
- Saves tax money by decreasing tax breaks and subsidies to big contributors.
- Provides all citizens the chance for more fair and equal input into our electoral and legislative system.
- Invigorates democracy by increasing citizen confidence and participation in our electoral process.

Municipal Clean Money Efforts

California Common Cause is active in the push for a state-wide Clean Money system as well as municipal clean money efforts in [San Diego](#), [Los Angeles](#), [San Francisco](#), and [San Jose](#).