

January 9 letter to editor of Clarion-Ledger

Thank you for running the USA Today editorial on the problems with the current Congress on Jan. 7. Common Cause has long worked to combat the corrupting effects of unlimited and often anonymous money now pouring into national and state elections. The Supreme Court's Citizens United decision has only encouraged bigger donors and donor anonymity in the name of free speech.

Common Cause also supports improving the process of redistricting with more citizen input. New "safe seat" redistricting drawn by partisan legislatures after the last census discourages our representatives from seeking compromise and working together to do the people's business. Extremists feel free to be intransigent when they believe the only people they need to represent in their district come from their end of the political spectrum.

California's new bipartisan commission for redistricting has had a promising start. The American people want elected representatives who will work to solve the nation's problems, not just represent special monied interests and the more extreme views of one political party.

Elizabeth Crowell

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