

# BANGOR DAILY NEWS

## July 9 Letters to the Editor

July 9, 2012

<http://bangordailynews.com/2012/07/08/opinion/monday-july-9-2012-campaign-money-bring-jobs-home-act-and-religious-freedom/>

### Secret money

Thank you for your [Editorial](#) on secret money in candidate elections.

You're right that the flood of secret money in American politics is bad for voters. But you missed an opportunity to support passage of the DISCLOSE Act of 2012.

Under current law, corporations, unions, lobbyists and special interests can now spend millions to get the elected officials they want into power, and right now, the law lets them do that in complete secrecy. The DISCLOSE Act requires donor disclosures and disclaimers.

Voters deserve and need to know the sources of funding for election advertising so they can make informed decisions. Secret campaign money has no place in America's democracy simply because it undermines the role of the voter and corrupts the election process. Voters have a right to know — whether it is a corporation, union, trade association, or nonprofit advocacy group making unlimited campaign expenditures and influencing elections — so they can judge whether to believe the ads.

The DISCLOSE Act of 2012 is likely to come up for a vote in the Senate next week. I urge our own Sens. Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe to support this important legislation and help make things right. Americans deserve all the information they can get before they vote. Tell us where the money is coming from and let the voters decide.

**Ann Luther**

*Trenton*