

# Portland Press Herald

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Letters to the Editor

## Clean Elections is one state program that works

Your editorial about the Maine Clean Election law is dead-on ("[Our View: Maine Clean Elections should be preserved](#)," March 17).. This is one state program that works. It is very upsetting that, year after year, it comes under attack.

I was disappointed when the Supreme Court struck down matching funds because that part of the law ensured a level playing field for candidates.

I think voters benefit when candidates compete within a system that is basically fair. But the court apparently believes that the better way is to tip the scales for big-money special interests.

I had hope that the last Legislature would repair the damage done by the court, but it did just the opposite, weakening Clean Elections even more.

Now the 126th Legislature has its chance to replace matching funds and restore the opportunity for candidates to run vigorous races against well-funded opponents.

I call upon lawmakers to make our democracy a priority by strengthening Clean Elections. It's also important to provide adequate funding so that Maine can continue to push private special money away from our senators and representatives.

*William Curran  
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