



## CLEAN ELECTIONS WORKS IN MAINE

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### *ONE CLEAN ELECTIONS CANDIDATE OF THREE MOVES ON TO THE GENERAL ELECTION*

June 9, 2010

***For Immediate Release***

(Portland, Maine)---- Maine Citizens for Clean Elections is calling the June primary a great day for clean elections. In the June 2010 primary, three candidates sought and used the clean elections system - Democrats Libby Mitchell, Pat McGowan and Republican Peter Mills. Libby Mitchell secured the nomination for the Democratic Party making her the first Democratic Candidate to move to the General Election as a Clean Elections candidate.

Alison Smith, Co-Chair of MCCE (Maine Citizens for Clean Elections) said:  
"The system works. These candidates ran vigorous, competitive campaigns on a level playing field. That's what Maine people wanted when they passed it, and why Clean Elections has been so successful over the last ten years."

Maine voters decided a decade ago that they favored a campaign finance system that separates private special interest money from the people who hold our highest public offices.

Ann Luther, Co-Chair of MCCE (Maine Citizens for Clean Elections) said:  
"People want to get the big money out of politics, they want candidates to spend less time and energy on raising money, and think campaign spending should be limited. The Clean Election system works! It is a constitutional way to reach all those goals."

Yesterday, also saw the U.S Supreme court suspend payment of matching funds for clean elections candidates in Arizona in the middle of its primary. It will likely hear an appeal later this year.

Maine Citizens for Clean Elections (MCCE) is a nonpartisan coalition of groups and individuals that works in the public interest to advocate for, increase public support for, defend and improve the Maine Clean Election Act and related campaign finance law.

#### **Member Organizations**

AARP Maine, Common Cause Maine, EqualityMaine, League of Women Voters of Maine, League of Young Voters, Maine AFL-CIO, Maine Council of Churches, Maine People's Alliance/Maine People's Resource Center, NAACP-Portland, Maine State Employees Association/SEIU Local 1989, Maine Women's Lobby, Peace Action Maine, Sierra Club Maine Chapter