



Press Release
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Government By the People Act Introduced in Congress Today
Both Pingree and Michaud co-sponsor new campaign finance measure.

Augusta, ME —Today the Government by the People Act, was introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD) and more than 100 original cosponsors, including Rep. Chellie Pingree and Rep. Michael Michaud. The bill is a comprehensive reform package designed to combat the influence of concentrated money in politics, raise civic engagement, and amplify the voice of everyday Americans.

“The Government by the People Act would break Congress’ dependence on big money campaign donors and elevate the importance of everyday people in our elections and government,” said BJ McCollister, Program Director of Maine Citizens for Clean Elections. “Maine led the country with our publicly funded Clean Election Act, and now Congress is poised to follow our lead.”

The Government by the People Act would change the way our elections are financed through a combination of local small dollar donations, public matching funds, and a “My Voice” tax credit. Instead of relying on Wall Street executives and lobbyists for campaign contributions, participating candidates would rely on their constituents back home to fund their campaigns.

“Rep. Pingree and Rep. Michaud know the American people deserve a political system that makes sure all of our voices are heard, not just big money donors,” said McCollister. “This legislation will help to do just that.”

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