

# Maine Citizens for Clean Elections

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TO: The Honorable Senator Lisa T. Marraché, Senate Chair  
The Honorable Representative John L. Patrick, House Chair  
The Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

DATE: April 23, 2007

RE: **LD 1682** “An Act to Improve Maine’s Clean Election Law”

## **Maine Citizens for Clean Elections (MCCE) strongly opposes LD 1682.**

This bill calls for mandatory seed money in all Clean Election races. MCCE believes it is inappropriate and unnecessary to mandate private fundraising as a part of a full public funding system.

While many candidates do take advantage of the optional seed money provision in current law, most candidates appreciate the fact that the Maine Clean Election Act allows them to run without raising private money. In fact, that is essentially the point of a full public funding system.

LD 1682 constitutes a fundamental change to the Maine Clean Election Act, but one that is categorically not an improvement.