### **Agenda Report**

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Viera, FL 32940



### Resolution/Award/Presentation

E.7.	9/16/2025

### **Subject:**

Presentation to the Brevard County Commissioners Regarding Grassroots Citizen Effort to Affect State Priorities at the County Level by Addressing Shortfalls in State Campaign Finance - District 1

### **Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

### **Dept/Office:**

District 1

### **Requested Action:**

It is requested that the board of commissioners hear a citizen proposal to consider prioritizing state campaign finance prior to the 2025 September legislative priorities session.

### **Summary Explanation and Background:**

The D-1 office was contacted by a Brevard resident interested in campaign finance reform. The citizen has requested to present a proposal to add transparency that would impact campaign finance at the local level.

### Clerk to the Board Instructions:

Include presentation content in meeting minutes for this meeting.



### FLORIDA'S SPACE COAST

Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board, 400 South Street • P.O. Box 999, Titusville, Florida 32781-0999

Telephone: (321) 637-2001 Fax: (321) 264-6972 Kimberly.Powell@brevardclerk.us



September 17, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioner Katie Delaney, District 1

RE: Item E.7., Presentation Regarding Grassroots Citizen Effort to Affect State Priorities at the County Level by Addressing Shortfalls in State Campaign Finance

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on September 16, 2025, acknowledged a citizen proposal to consider prioritizing State campaign finance prior to the 2025 September legislative priorities session.

Your continued cooperation is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK

Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

# Maximizing Influence, Minimizing Oversight

How Political Committees and ECOs Circumvent Florida's Campaign Finance Laws – and Why It Matters to Voters



into Florida Politics

PC-to-PC Transfers: The Loophole in Plain Sight

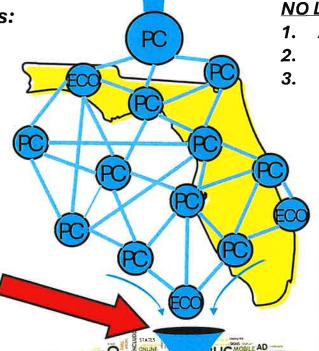
The True Donor Vanishes in a Maze of Secrecy.

### **Funding** is funneled

into targeted markets, delivering precision-crafted political messaging that avoids "express advocacy".

### **Shaping Voter Perception:**

Groups that master this loophole can essentially control the public narrative without ever revealing who funded their messaging...



**NO LIMIT ON:** 

- 1. Amount Transferred
- 2. Number of Transfers
- 3. Number of PCs involved

PC = Political Committee ECO = Electioneering Communications Organization

#### What is Express Advocacy?

It means clearly urging a vote for or against a candidate. Florida law only applies limits if certain "magic words" are used — a loophole easily sidestepped.



...leaving voters in the dark about who is really behind the messages they see

It's Time to Close the Loopholes: Define Coordination. Limit Transfers. Restore Transparency.

Support Legislative Reforms to Stop Money Laundering in Florida Politics

To the Honorable Members of the Brevard Legislative Delegation:

I write to express my support for the grassroots call from Brevard citizens seeking greater transparency in Florida's campaign finance system.

In recent election cycles, Brevard voters have been inundated with political advertisements—many of which lacked clear disclosure of who funded them. This is not just about campaign mailers; it's about the integrity of our democratic process. When voters cannot discern the true source behind electoral messaging, trust in government is eroded, and the foundation of representative self-government is weakened.

Our residents are asking for something simple and reasonable: the ability to know who is influencing their elections. As stewards of local governance, we too should value a system with transparency.

I respectfully encourage you to support thoughtful reforms that will bring greater visibility into the financial forces shaping our elections. This is not a partisan issue—it's a matter of public trust and good governance.

Thank you for your service to Brevard County and for your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

[Commissioner's Name]

Ketty Welay Kathryn Delaney District 1 Commissioner

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION

# A RESOLUTION ON BEHALF OF THE BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROTECT ELECTION INTEGRITY, RESTORE TRANSPARENCY, AND PRESERVE LOCAL GOVERNANCE

WHEREAS, during the August 2024 Florida Primary Election, Political Committees (PCs) made significant campaign expenditures across at least six counties—including Brevard—through mass marketing channels such as direct mail, websites, and text messages; and

WHEREAS, several of these materials were presented to voters as so-called "Official Voter Guides," leading the public to believe they were endorsed by President Trump, Governor DeSantis, the Brevard Republican Executive Committee (BREC), and the Republican Party of Florida (RPOF), through unauthorized use of names and logos, creating confusion among voters and eroding public trust; and

**WHEREAS**, the funding behind these messages was made possible by a shell-game of PC-to-PC financial transfers that obscured the original source of the money, making it virtually impossible for the average voter to determine who or what organization was ultimately responsible; and

**WHEREAS**, this lack of transparency creates significant risks for election interference, including the infiltration of foreign funds, "dark money" operations, and money laundering through layers of Political Committees which operate outside of the traditional express advocacy framework; and

WHEREAS, during the April 2025 Special Primary Election, voters in Brevard County were again inundated with costly political advertising—funded through similar opaque PC networks—without clear disclosure of who was responsible for the messaging or what interests were behind them; and

**WHEREAS**, Brevard County residents increasingly perceive that this activity is not only continuing, but escalating out of proportion, as shown by the extraordinary financial outlays in recent special elections and the continuing use of legal loopholes to avoid donor transparency and accountability; and

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA THAT:

The Board strongly urges the Florida Legislature to amend Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, to prohibit the transfer of funds between Political Committees (PCs) in order to restore transparency, rebuild public trust, and promote fair and accountable elections across the state.

The Board further calls upon the Brevard County legislative delegation to work collaboratively with the County's lobbying team to sponsor and support legislation during the 2026 Legislative Session that expressly prohibits all PC-to-PC financial transfers.

To the Honorable Members of the Brevard Legislative Delegation:

I write to express my support for the grassroots call from Brevard citizens seeking greater transparency in Florida's campaign finance system.

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I respectfully encourage you to support thoughtful reforms that will bring greater visibility into the financial forces shaping our elections. This is not a partisan issue—it's a matter of public trust and good governance.

Thank you for your service to Brevard County and for your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
[Commissioner's Name]

### **Board Meeting Date**

9-16
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Item Number:	F. Consent	
Motion By:	KO	
Second By:	KD	
Nay By:		

Commissioner	DISTRICT	AYE	NAY
Commissioner	1		
Delaney			,
Vice Chair Goodson	2		
Commissioner	3		
Adkinson			
Commissioner	5		
Altman		<b>V</b>	
Chairman Feltner	4		