

# CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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SENATOR MCCAIN'S EFFORTS TO END THE CORRUPTING INFLUENCE OF SPECIAL INTERESTS IN CAMPAIGNS BY OVERHAULING U.S. CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS REMAIN A CORNERSTONE OF HIS REFORM LEGACY.

## **Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002**

In 2002, Senators McCain and Russ Feingold championed the [Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act](#), widely known as McCain-Feingold, which enacted some of the most significant reforms to campaign financing. The legislation banned soft money contributions, restricted corporate and union spending on campaign ads, required greater financial disclosure, and strengthened election laws. While portions of *McCain-Feingold* were later rolled-back by the Supreme Court, many of these provisions still play an integral role in ensuring the integrity of U.S. elections today. In 1999, Senators McCain and Feingold were awarded the John F. Kennedy [Profile in Courage Award](#) for their work on campaign finance reform.

## **Campaign Finance Reform for the 21st Century**

As the nature of elections evolves with technology, Senator McCain continued working to increase transparency of political advertisements across a growing number of new media platforms. In 2017, Senator McCain cosponsored the [Honest Ads Act](#), which would expand landmark campaign finance law to apply to internet and digital communications platforms that command a significant audience. These regulations have been endorsed by the leadership of major social media companies, including the CEOs of Facebook and Twitter.