



1750 Ocean Park Boulevard, #200, Santa Monica, CA 90405 - 4938  
Tel: 310-392-0522 • Fax: 310-392-8874 • Net: consumerwatchdog.org

## FLOOR ALERT – SB 298 OPPOSE

June 28, 2007

Attn: California Assembly Members  
From: Carmen Balber  
Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights (FTCR)  
Re: SB 298 would limit disclosure of political contributions

We urge you to vote NO on SB 298 (Cogdill) when it reaches the Assembly floor.

SB 298 would *weaken* campaign finance disclosure under the Political Reform Act by increasing the contribution amount that triggers reporting thresholds for major donors from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

The end result? Voters will have less information about who is funding political candidates and ballot initiative campaigns.

For example: The area chamber of commerce could give the maximum \$3,600 contribution to every Republican Assembly member in Orange County, and never have to disclose its donations. A union local could give \$2000 to every Assembly Democrat representing the city of Los Angeles and not come close to reaching a \$25,000 disclosure threshold. A company, its board of directors, and every member of its executive team, could give a candidate for governor the maximum allowed contribution, \$24,100, and never disclose their donations.

Candidates and committees must report the contributions they receive. However, it is just as important for the public to easily access information about where campaign donors give their money. Major donor reports are an invaluable resource that allow the public to keep track of the people, groups and companies that spend money on politics. This bill would limit the information available to voters, making elections, and election funding, more opaque.

**Vote NO on SB 298**