



Dear Friends,

20 ideas, 20 minutes, \$20: Makeover

Everyone complains about money in politics, but then they all engage in the money arms race and then proceed to blather on about "poor them" and how much they hate raising money. That is one of the biggest lies in politics. Big money candidates and especially incumbents like it just fine the way it is, spending 70-80% of their time raising money from their rich friends.

Calling their wealthy buddies is not hard: "Hi Joan, Hi John. You gave me \$2500 in the last election. The max is \$2600 this time around, can I count on you for that? I can? Wonderful, thank you." That is not hard. Hard would be actually working for your constituents 90% of the time, and spending only 10% of your time on fundraising.

The reason incumbents like it just the way it is this--if they spend most of their time fundraising, they don't have to spend any time taking votes that might hurt their political futures and they don't have to spend time talking with constituents who might be unhappy with the current state of the economy or the country.

It is absurd that we, the hardworking taxpayers are paying the salaries of Congress so they can work at only 20% capacity. That's the equivalent of you showing up at your job once a week. Would your boss keep you on the job if you did that? Of course not, so why do we put up with such poor performance from our employees in Congress? We don't have to.

We can rid our system of the money and transform the do-nothing Congress. How? Make money in politics unsavory and socially unacceptable. Voters have the power to take money out of politics. They can demand that all candidates pledge to be clean money candidates.

Voters need to take a pledge as well. That they will not give their vote to any candidate who continues this money arms race that is killing our democracy.

I am that only clean money candidate with solutions that come straight from the big-money-free zone of Main Street. I take no PAC money and no bundled money from Wall Street or K Street, thus I am beholden to no one but the voters. My opponents are long on scare tactics and scripted empty rhetoric but short on actual solutions. I do things differently--I tell voters the truth and my common sense solutions.

And we have a perfect example of how America has completely transformed something bad. We did it with smoking, and we can do it with big money. Make money in politics as unsavory as smoking. Smoking rates have plummeted not because we outlawed smoking but because it is now socially unacceptable.

I have taken the clean money pledge.

I now ask the voters to take and keep The Real People's Pledge not to give their vote to any candidate who continues this

money arms race that is killing our democracy as surely as smoking kills people.

My Idea #20: The Real People's Pledge. The People win, Democracy wins, America wins.

[If you like Idea #20 click here now to contribute \\$20.](#)

[If you really like Idea #20 contribute \\$200.](#)

[If Idea #20 is your favorite so far, contribute \\$2000.](#)

For democracy,



Marisa DeFranco

Congressional Candidate for the 6th District, Massachusetts

CONTRIBUTE

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