

I-1329

WE THE PEOPLE ★ Claiming our Democracy

Get **BIG MONEY** out of politics!

WA*mend*.org

Washington Coalition to Amend the Constitution, WAmend.org

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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

I-1329 GOES NATIONAL!

Washington Initiative 1329 has captured the attention of the nation!

\$50,000 CHALLENGE GRANT FOR

“WAMEND” AND THEIR “OVERTURN CITIZENS UNITED” BALLOT DRIVE!

Seattle, WA. - May 8, 2014 – The 28th Amendment National Roadshow took its message to Seattle on Saturday to an enthusiastic crowd of Washington Initiative 1329 supporters. John Nichols, co-author of *Dollarocracy* and long-time correspondent for *The Nation* magazine was the featured speaker.

The 28th Amendment movement and WAmend.org, the organization behind Initiative 1329, are committed to overturning recent Supreme Court 5 - 4 rulings in *Citizens United v FEC, 2010* and *McCutcheon v FEC, 2014*, that have eviscerated campaign finance laws enacted by the US Congress, in part because the Supreme Court claims that incorporated entities should benefit from the rights and privileges that the US Constitution grants to individuals.

Americans disagree. Polling indicates that the vast majority of Americans believe that the Supreme Court is wrong on this nonpartisan issue.

John Nichols eagerly agreed to be a part of the *Roadshow* saying, “We have fundamental problems in this country, and we need fundamental solutions. We need a constitutional amendment that says corporations are not people.”

A coalition of organizations and citizen activists in Washington State are seeking to put an initiative on the statewide ballot in 2014 calling for the overturn of *Citizens United* and applicable precedents (like *McCutcheon*.)

On Saturday, WAmend.org, the primary organizers of the signature gathering campaign, told the crowd that in order to achieve their goal of 300,000 signatures by June 25, 2014, they would need to raise \$400,000 to fund full-time signature gatherers.

When WAmend said they needed \$100,000 to get started, a man in the room, who is a local of Seattle, offered a \$50,000 challenge grant. If the challenge can be met in the next couple of weeks, WAmend organizers are set to capitalize on the power of the *Roadshow*.

Libby Carr, Campaign Manager of WAmend, said “People need to remember that they are not just citizens of their state, but also citizens of the country, so we welcome citizens from other states to support our efforts here in Washington.” Ms. Carr explained that WAmend will be able to take any monies not used in their campaign effort this year to “pay it forward” to other states when they organize their voter initiatives on this issue.

With Saturday’s challenge grant in place, now is the time to make donations to the I-1329 campaign. Donations are accepted at wamend.org/donate/.

John Nichols calls the 28th Amendment movement “the most dynamic, yet under-covered, movement in America.” He has committed to alerting his national audience about I-1329 and WAmend’s efforts in Washington State. (To view a six-and-a-half minute video of John Nichols speaking May 3, 2014 at the 28th Amendment National Roadshow in Seattle, go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=TylddfMQGTc.)

On Monday, I-1329 Campaign Manager Libby Carr was interviewed on the Thom Hartmann national radio broadcast. She has been invited back to provide weekly updates to his national audience on I-1329’s progress.

The 28th Amendment movement continues to grow and Washington’s voice will be added to a growing chorus of states and local governments urging such an amendment to empower people to pass laws to limit, and require disclosure of, political contributions and expenditures, and

where one person once again equals one vote. Most other states did so through legislative action rather than a citizens' initiative. For that reason the entire country is watching Washington State's grassroots "bottom-up" progress on I-1329.

A map provided by *Money Out Voters In* (MOVI) shows that the movement is happening in over 40 states (view the map at <http://28amend-movi.nationbuilder.com/>). MOVI's partners in the **28th Amendment National Roadshow** include the [Center for Media and Democracy](#), [Common Cause](#), [Free Speech for People](#), [Move To Amend](#), [People for the American Way](#), [Public Citizen](#), [Rootstrikers](#), [Stamp Stampede](#) and [Wolf PAC](#).

- ⌚ For information about Initiative 1329, go to WAmend.org
- ⌚ To donate to WAmend and the I-1329 campaign, go to wamend.org/donate/
- ⌚ For information about the 28th Amendment National Roadshow go to 28amend-movi.nationbuilder.com/

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