



March 6, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
2421 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the 4,000-member employers of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and the \$171 billion industry that brings power, light, and communication technology to communities across the U.S, I write to you in strong opposition of the partisan bill, the “For the People Act of 2019” (H.R.1) which would serve to infringe on the first amendment rights of our members to participate in the political process and stifle their ability to effectively advocate for change in public policy.

NECA believes that the right to vote is the right and responsibility of every American citizen. NECA contractors take this responsibility seriously and engage in this right to represent their interest on behalf of themselves, their families, their companies, and their employees by participating not only in the electoral process but also in advocacy through their membership in our association. Although we commend the House on addressing voting rights and campaign finance reform, we are very concerned that this legislation would create more bureaucracy by unfairly targeting and burdening trade associations with arbitrary and onerous requirements and regulations.

We are most concerned that this legislation would create federally funded federal elections, which would give up to \$1,200 of taxpayer money for every \$200 raised. Despite a cap of \$4.3 million, per candidate, this provision could easily cost billions of taxpayer dollars each election cycle. This would be on top of the \$2.5 billion already estimated by the Congressional Budget Office. Given lack of federal finding available for investment in programs this nation sorely needs, such as infrastructure, this clearly would serve to be a waste of precious resources. NECA firmly believes that the billions in federal fund that would be expended to implement this legislation would be better spend actually benefiting the American taxpayer, not politicians running for elective office.

We urge you to reject this misleading legislation and **vote NO on H.R. 1**. This vote and the votes associated with the legislation may be included on your score on the NECA Legislative Report Card for the 116th Congress. Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marco A. Giamberardino". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a background of faint, light blue stars.

Marco A. Giamberardino, MPA  
Executive Director, Government Affairs

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