



PRESS RELEASE

**Congressman
Gary G. Miller
41st District, California
For Immediate Release**

February 14, 2002

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Congressman Miller Reacts to Campaign Finance Reform Vote

Washington, D.C. - Early this morning, Congressman Gary Miller (R-CA) expressed his disappointment over the House's inability to fundamentally reform campaign finance laws. The U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 2356, the "Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act" by a vote of 240 to 189.

"If this becomes law, more money will flood into the system," said Congressman Gary Miller, "in fact, this bill encourages Members of Congress to solicit soft money donations for special interest groups because it does not improve disclosure."

Although the bill will ban soft money contributions to national parties beginning November 6 of this year, it permits state and local parties to accept and spend \$10,000 of soft money per donor per year. H.R. 2356 prohibits federal officeholders and candidates from raising soft money for political parties at federal, state, and local levels, but permits Members of Congress to raise unlimited soft money for certain tax-exempt special interest groups.

"I'm most disappointed by the failure of the Reynolds amendment to ban soft money contributions effective today. If soft money is such a problem that requires all this regulation - why aren't we banning it today," questioned Congressman Miller.

On Tuesday, Congressman Miller announced a framework of nine reforms he hoped to support during yesterday's debate. Only one of the reforms Miller cited - indexing the 1974-established contribution limits to inflation - was included in the bill.

"I had really hoped to support a bill which focused on disclosure and improving current enforcement mechanisms. Instead, we were given a bill which codifies the Democrats' most effective fundraising techniques," concluded Congressman Miller.

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