

Shirley Jin: People's interests require campaign finance reform- Boulder Daily Camera

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We do not have a democracy when the people's representatives do not work for the benefit of the people. The Trump health-care reform bill will, if passed, cause millions of Americans to lose their health insurance; others will have skimpier policies; there will be deep cuts to Medicaid; and billions of dollars will be transferred to the very wealthy through tax cuts. And so, his bill is not the result of democracy at work. It is the result of elected officials being bought and paid for with massive political advertising provided by the wealthiest one-tenth of one percent of Americans.

To bring back a government that puts the people's interests first, we need publicly financed campaigns. States, such as Arizona and Maine, that have implemented full public funding of campaigns have found that it costs five to 10 dollars per voter, allows candidates with integrity to run for office, and that people prefer to vote for candidates who run for office with public funding of their campaigns.

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