

February 28, 2024

Jonathan Wayne Executive Director Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices 135 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0135

Re: <u>Proposed Amendments to the Commission's Rules</u>; New Section 15 (foreign government contributions or expenditures) (Agenda Item #1)

Dear Director Wayne:

Agenda Item #1 is the public hearing regarding proposed rules to implement the foreign government contribution and expenditure ban enacted by citizen initiative in November 2023.

As you know, Maine Citizens for Clean Elections and MCCE Action have long been strong advocates for campaign finance laws, elections, and government that serve the public interest – both in principle and in practice here in Maine. We support measures that increase fairness, inclusion, and opportunity in our politics and promote robust participation by Maine people in their government.

We appreciate the work of the Commission developing these rules. Rather than providing substantive comments, we endorse the comments filed yesterday by the Campaign Legal Center. We consulted with CLC in the development of their comments, and we believe they cover the subject thoroughly.

Sincerely,

Anna Kellar

Executive Director