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NATIONAL YOUTH RIGHTS ASSOCIATION ATTACKS CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM BILL

WASHINGTON, DC – In an announcement today to members and in a letter to members of Congress, the National Youth Rights Association (NYRA) began an aggressive campaign strongly opposing a specific portion of House Resolution 2356 (Campaign Finance Reform). Section 319 specifically states that minors will be unable to make contributions of any kind to candidates or political parties. Alex Koroknay-Palicz, President of NYRA, explains, “Sadly this bill goes too far and takes away more rights from our already disenfranchised young people.”

For Senator John McCain, an advocate for both youth rights and campaign finance reform, voting for this bill will in many ways break several campaign promises.

While the NYRA supports the idea of campaign finance reform, it does not agree that limiting the voice of minors in politics is necessary or appropriate. Chris Manley, an NYRA board member, elaborates, “By eliminating the right of students like myself to contribute to political campaigns and national political committees, Congress is taking away the only voice those under 18 have left in our democratic process. This action not only takes a step away from democracy but also violates the constitutional right of Americans to express their voice in their government.”

Koroknay-Palicz, in his statement to members, vowed to rally a campaign against this specific portion of H.R. 2356. Koroknay-Palicz said, “Campaign finance reform is an issue with many merits. Many young people support this legislation and support cleaning up Washington. However, it should not be at the cost of this nation’s youth.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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