The Campaign Finance Crisis in America and How to Fix It: A Solutions Summit

Thursday, January 21, 2016, Lunch 12:00 pm, Panels 12:30 pm, Reception 5:15 pm
The Brookings Institution, Falk Auditorium, 1775 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington, DC

12:00-12:30pm Registration and Lunch

12:30-1:30pm Lunch Remarks
  • Welcome: Norma L. Eisen, U.S. Ambassador to the Czech Republic (2011-2014); Special Assistant and Special Counsel to the President (2009-2011); Visiting Fellow, The Brookings Institution
  • Interveners:
    o Peter Schweitzer, President, Government Accountability Institute
    o John Pudner, Executive Director, Take Back Our Republic
    o Mike Petro, Executive Vice President, Committee on Economic Development

1:30-1:45pm Break

1:45-2:45pm Panel 1: A Crisis of Democracy
  • Moderator: Tim Roemer, Ambassador to India (2009-2011); Member, U.S. House of Representatives (D-Ind., 1991-2003); member 9/11 Commission; Senior Strategic Advisor to Issue One
  • Panelists:
    o Tim Wirth, Member, U.S. Senate (D-Colo., 1987-1993); Member, U.S. House of Representatives (D-Colo., 1975-1987)
    o Steve Israel, Member, U.S. House of Representatives (D-NY.)
  • Interveners
    o Jeff Peck, Principal, Peck Madigan Jones; Lobbyist
    o Chuck Merin, Executive Vice President, Prime Policy Group; Lobbyist

2:45-3:00pm Break
3:00-4:15pm  Panel 2: A Problem We Can Fix
- Moderator: **Norman L. Eisen**, U.S. Ambassador to the Czech Republic (2011-2014); Special Assistant and Special Counsel to the President (2009-2011); Visiting Fellow, The Brookings Institution
- Panelists:
  - **Fred Wertheimer**, Founder and President, Democracy 21
  - **John Bonifaz**, Co-Founder and President, Free Speech for People
  - **Dan Wolf**, Chair, Committee on Steering and Policy, Massachusetts State Senate (D)
  - **Roger Katz**, Chair, Government Oversight Committee, Maine State Senate (R)
  - **Justice Allen Loughry**, Justice, Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia
  - **Justice Cheri Beasley**, Associate Justice, North Carolina Supreme Court
- Interveners
  - **Bruce Freed**, Founder and President, Center for Political Accountability
  - **Lucas Welch**, Executive Director, The Pluribus Project
  - **Dan Berger**, Partner, Berger & Montague, P.C.

4:15-4:30pm  Break

4:30-5:15pm  Panel 3: The Time Is Now
- Moderator: **Nick Penniman**, Executive Director, Issue One
- Panelists:
  - **John Sarbanes**, Member, U.S. House of Representatives (D-Md.)
  - **Claudine Schneider**, Member, U.S. Senate (R-I.,1981-1991)
  - **Zephyr Teachout**, CEO, Mayday PAC
- Interveners
  - **Tim Roemer**, Ambassador to India (2009-2011); Member, U.S. House of Representatives (D-Ind., 1991-2003); member 9/11 Commission; member 9/11 Commission; Senior Strategic Advisor to Issue One

5:15-6:00pm  Reception