

Clean elections will prove worth

With New Jersey elected officials associated with so much corruption, our state needs to change business-as-usual by removing money from politics and change our election process.

This November, when voters in the 14th, 24th, and 37th legislative districts select representatives for the Senate and Assembly, they have the opportunity to vote for candidates who did not receive substantial campaign contributions from unions, corporations, political parties or individual do-

nors. These candidates are participating in the second Clean Elections Pilot Project.

Under this voluntary program, qualified candidates who collect 400 to 800 \$10 contributions from voters in their district and agree to forgo private campaign cash receive public grants to run for office.

The Clean Elections program is backed by a diverse group of concerned organizations, including the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, Rutgers University's Eagleton Institute of Politics, Citi-

zen Action and the League of Women Voters, who will promote the program to voters in the pilot districts.

Although we will continue to hear negative stories about Jersey politics, we should take notice of this pilot program. Our wish is for clean elections to come to a legislative district near you after this trial run.

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