



# Peace and Freedom Party of California

## Legislative Committee

Kevin Akin, Riverside; Mary Lou Finley, San Diego; Dave Kadlecek, Vice Chair, Sacramento; Tom Lacey, Secretary, San Francisco; Kevin Martinez, Sacramento; Debra Reiger, Sacramento; John Reiger, Chair, Sacramento; Maureen Smith, Santa Cruz; Alice Stek, Los Angeles; C. T. Weber, Legislative Liaison, Sacramento.

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March 23, 2023

Honorable Assemblymember Alex Lee  
1021 O Street, Suite 6330  
P. O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, California 94249-0024

Subject: AB 83 (Lee) Contributions by Foreign-Influenced Business Entities Support

Dear Assemblymember Lee:

I am writing on behalf of the Peace and Freedom Party of California in support of AB 83 which would expand the prohibitions in the Political Reform Act of 1974 to include contributions, expenditures, or independent expenditures made by a foreign-influenced business entity.

Currently a business entity in which a foreign principal holds, owns, controls, or otherwise has directly or indirectly acquired beneficial ownership of equity or voting shares in an amount that is equal to or greater than 50 percent of the total equity or outstanding voting shares is prohibited from making such contributions or expenditures.

AB 83 would require any business entity that makes such a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure to file a statement of certification, signed by the entity's chief executive officer under penalty of perjury, avowing that the entity is not a foreign-influenced business entity, and would prohibit a person who receives funds from a business entity from using those funds for purposes of a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure in connection with a ballot measure or candidate election unless the person receives a copy of the statement of certification from the business entity stating that it is not a foreign government, foreign principal, or foreign-influenced entity.

AB 83 states that a foreign-influenced business entity is a business entity in which a foreign principal owns, controls, or has direct or indirect beneficial ownership of one percent (1%) or more of the total equity; two or more foreign principals acting together own, control, or have direct or indirect beneficial ownership of that equal to or greater than five percent (5%) of the total equality; or one or more foreign principals participate in any way, directly or indirectly, in the business entity's decision-making process with respect to contributions or expenditures of funds in connection with a ballot measure or election.

Peace and Freedom Party's position is that corporations and other business entities are legally individuals, but they are not people. We also feel that money is not speech. If it were, some would unfairly have more speech than others. So, while AB 83 can not prevent all corporation and other business entities from contributing to ballot and candidate campaigns, it does stop some of them. It is a step in the direction of removing big money from its corrupting influence in campaigns.

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For these reasons and many more, we support AB 83. For further information on our position on this bill, please contact me at [CTWeberVoters@att.net](mailto:CTWeberVoters@att.net).

Sincerely,

*C. T. Weber*

C. T. Weber  
Legislative Liaison  
Peace and Freedom Party of California