



May 9, 2022

VIA Online Portal to Author and Assembly Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Alex Lee
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 6330
Sacramento, CA 94249

**RE: AB 1819 (Lee) – Political Reform Act of 1974: contributions and expenditures
by foreign-influenced business entities – SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Lee:

The League of Women Voters of California writes to support AB 1819, which would limit foreign countries and principals, with certain levels of ownership stock in United States based corporations, from exerting influence in our elections. The prohibition would extend to foreign companies in which one percent of shares are owned by a single foreign investor, five percent of shares are owned by multiple foreign investors, or a foreign entity participates in decision-making with respect to state or local political spending.

The League of Women Voters of California supports limiting campaign donations and expenditures to protect representative democracy from being distorted by election campaigns spending, and to combat corruption and undue influence in government.

In recent elections, California has seen increased campaign donations and expenditures from corporations with significant foreign ownership. The decision-making of these corporations is responsive to those foreign shareholders instead of being focused on ensuring the well-being of Californians.

AB 1819 closes a loophole in the Political Reform Act by banning foreign-influenced corporations from contributing to candidates, parties, or political committees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Moon Goldberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carol Moon Goldberg
President