The Reset Button
(rev. 3.0)

A plan and strategy to get all money, all influence, and all control of the Financial Elite and Power Elite out of U.S. Elections.

The goal:
Ordinary U.S. citizens in control of U.S. governance.

To finally achieve a government of the people, by the people and for the people.
Recipient:

Please read thoroughly, and if this resonates with you, make this document 'go viral', sending it in email attachments, posting a link: www.ResetButtonMovement.Org, at social media sites, forums, and any other web sites.

If you want to get the money, influence, and control of the Financial Elite and Power Elite out of U.S. elections, if you want a government of the people, by the people, and for the people to become reality, you must be one of the people who spreads The Reset Button by “word-of-mouth.” There is no formal organization, and no money behind this. Just citizens.

Once you read the goal, plan, and strategy of The Reset Button, you'll instantly realize that a comprehensive approach such as this is the only chance for citizens to actually remove the Elite from governance – and finally achieve governance by ordinary citizens, rather than the rich and powerful.

The elected and appointed officials in power, as well as the entire electoral system, are controlled by the Elite: the “Financial Elite” and the “Power Elite.” Bought-and-paid-for politicians will never solve problems of ordinary citizens or the huge problems in the US government – they do not work for citizens; they work for bankers, corporations, and oligarchs. Our only chance is to completely change the election system – with major changes designed to completely strip the control over elections away from the Elite. We need to elect ordinary citizens to represent ordinary citizens. We demand to finally have a government of the people, by the people, and for the people – and this is the only way it will ever happen.

It will require one new law, and one new amendment: Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) and the Election Reform Act to make it possible.

It is literally up to us – me and you. We will either make this happen, or it will not happen.

(Originally published early in 2011, with the hope of US citizens gaining control over our own governance in the 2012 elections, this revision replaces “2012” with “{year}”, meaning the year that citizens accomplish our objective and finally get true Election Reform: a full transformation of the electoral paradigm.)

(Cover photo: 2003 anti-war protest, Washington, DC. Photographer: unknown)
Forward

This brief introduction – focusing on my motivation for compiling, contributing to, and editing The Reset Button document – will hopefully be more valuable to the reader than a biography.

Several very bright people who have read earlier revisions of The Reset Button document have pointed out that the author whose viewpoint is being expressed should be introduced at the beginning of the document. In this case, this is difficult to do because the viewpoint is a blend of the brightest people that I have read and spoken to, as well as my own. This is not simply one person's vision, but rather a synthesis.

As for my personal agenda, angle, platform, or context, I am not tied to any corporation, bank, organization, agency, union, party, dogma, or specific ideology. My ties are to family, to community, to all US citizens, to our nation, to humanity, and to the environment. I nurture compassion, love, and integrity, and I dream of the day when every person in the US – from local community to nation – treasures, nurtures, and exemplifies these attributes in action, especially in all levels of governance.

From the viewpoint of those reading this document, I believe that the most important thing to know about me is that I am just an ordinary citizen of the United States. I am no genius or sage, but then, I believe that the ordinary mind is capable of extraordinary thought. Blending together the extraordinary thoughts of a number of ordinary people – people who also possess compassion, love, and integrity – provided this amazingly powerful and transformative vision.

I believe that compassion, love, and integrity are the most important attributes a human can possess, and are most certainly the most important attributes a human in a position of governance should possess – and that these attributes are nearly universally absent in the pool of individuals currently in positions of governance.

I believe that this is a self-inflicted wound, as well as a self-fulfilling prophecy in American governance. I believe that the system is currently set-up to find and promote sociopaths – individuals with exactly the opposite attributes – bringing them to positions of power within corporations, the military, and elected and appointed positions of governance. A critical transformation in governance will only occur – can only occur – when we as a nation reset the criteria for electing individuals for positions of governance.

How do we “hit the reset button”, to reset the criteria and method for selecting candidates, to find ordinary citizens with extraordinary integrity, love, compassion, intelligence, and vision – to serve in positions of governance? First, we need to understand how the Elite control elections: The Elite (the Financial Elite and Power Elite) control the entire election system 9 different ways. This is critical – no one I know of has ever comprehensively identified all of the ways that the Elite control elections. It is impossible to stop them if we don't know all of the methods they use,
and counter all of them simultaneously. A few are monetary, but the most powerful of the 9 are not monetary.

How do we prevent the Elite from controlling US elections, removing all 9 of their control mechanisms, so that We The People are the ones that select and elect those ordinary/extraordinary people to serve in a temporary role of service, in positions of governance? Well, read on – that is exactly what The Reset Button is about.

**Action.** I believe in brilliant, strategic action. It is really the only way anything will be changed, or rather the only way that we the people will make the major transformation to true self-governance. Until then, we will continue to be governed by international bankers and multinational corporations – and their representatives – “the best politicians that money can buy”, along with a phony 2-party political burlesque show to entertain us.

You don't have to be a leader and you don't have to be full of knowledge – the plan is all written down, and it is one law and one amendment to transform the election system. That's what we demand. That's what we need to throw off the control of the Financial Elite and Power Elite – all 9 ways that they control elections – and to change the US to a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

I'm no activist. You probably are not either. But somehow, you and I need to overcome whatever limitations we have, and do the work of activists. We also have to recognize that the climate has changed for activism: doors have slammed shut, laws have been enacted to shut activists up, (or lock them up), and Congress is definitely not listening to citizens at all. To succeed, we need the boldest, most powerful, non-violent action in the history of the United States.

I know that it is not enough to simply visualize your dreams. It is a good start, a critical piece, but it is not enough. Realizing dreams takes energy, and strategy, and work. You have the strategy in your hands. It's your choice: do nothing (or keep doing what has already been tried), and the status quo of rule by the Elite will be maintained, forever – or – dedicate yourself to this comprehensive, non-violent approach to finally creating a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. This won't be easy, but it is possible. It will be the most important thing we ever do.

- Dennis T. Leahy
Could this possibly work?

We know what doesn't work (everything we've tried!), and by the time you read this, you'll have a better understanding of why the things we have tried did not work. Isn't it time to try something different? Well, until millions of people have read The Reset Button document, we won't know how many of us agree, and how many of us would be willing to actually do something to make it work. So first, we need to get this document into the public consciousness. That is the first step. The only thing you are asked to do right now is to make sure that as many people as possible read The Reset Button – and then we can see how many people agree that this is the wisest and fastest pathway toward self-governance. There are no donations asked, and none accepted – the entire thing you are asked to do is to spread this document far and wide.

Spread The Reset Button to 10 other people, and ask them each to spread it to 10 people...

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In five cycles of sharing, starting from the first 500 people that become aware of The Reset Button, 50 million people could have The Reset Button in their hands.

“Scientists at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute have found that when just 10 percent of the population holds an unshakable belief, their belief will always be adopted by the majority of the society.”

Sharing this document is the first step. The only thing you are asked to do right now is to make sure that as many people as possible read The Reset Button – and then we can see how many people agree that this is the wisest and fastest pathway toward self-governance and away from corporatocracy. If there are enough of us to make this happen, we will no longer be disjointed, locked into niche activism, or nebulous in our solution. We will be united as never before – with a real solution in-hand.

Who wrote this document?

You did. I did. We all did. The Reset Button document is a collection of thoughts and ideas from a cross-section of many individual citizens of the United States. You may recognize some of the voices that first spoke (or popularized) some of the concepts, and realize that these came from moments of inspired clarity and deep and genuine concern for the greater good of all, regardless of any political party affiliation, ideological stance, or personal creed.

This is a collective work that stems from our common ground, stays rooted in our common ground, and works toward common ground solutions. It is so easy to subdivide ourselves into factions, and the Elite count on us being divided to make sure we never use our collective power to foment change. Some US citizens have strong ideas about fundamental ideological changes necessary for the US government, but there is not only no consensus reached yet, there is as yet no open public dialogue to even discuss the issues as a nation. Please keep in mind as you read through The Reset Button document that – right now – we citizens have absolutely no voice and no power to make any ideological changes, even if we had already taken the time to sort out our ideological differences and find our collective preferences. Don't fall into the trap of insisting that the ideological changes that you want have to be the first thing done or the primary focus – because that

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guarantees failure. We citizens have to be in power, in self-governance, first, and that is why The Reset Button is simply about electoral paradigm transformation (and not about ideological transformation.)

Remember, if we do nothing, or keep doing what we have already tried, there will be no change to the status quo, the Ruling Elite will strengthen and expand the corporatocracy, and further diminish the rights of US citizens (because it interferes with globalist Elite corporate profits.) Much like the Declaration of Independence was to the colonists, to remove the shackles of control by the Elite of England, The Reset Button movement is US citizens coming together to declare our independence from the globalist corporatocracy, to establish a new citizen-centric government by transforming the US electoral paradigm. Until we have self-governance, we have nothing – even the rights we thought were “inalienable” are being stripped away by the Ruling Elite and their globalist corporatocracy.

The Reset Button document was written by and for the citizens of the United States, and every supporter of The Reset Button is an equal. There is no organization, and no hierarchy of leadership. With this document in hand, we each possess 100% of everything we need to move forward toward true self-governance.

What is this document about?

“The Reset Button” is a term applied to this document itself, to the specific legislation within this document, to the plan/strategy/goal that defines the core reason for this document, as well as to The Reset Button as a “movement” to achieve the goals of the document. This document is a document that clearly outlines a plan for US citizens to gain control (legally and non-violently) of the entire US government – all three branches. Gaining control means literally removing all of the Elite's controlling influence of power, position, and money on elections and governance, and replacing every elected and appointed official with an ordinary citizen with no Elite (corporate, banking, oligarch) ties.

A small group of very rich and very powerful persons (the “Elite” – the Financial Elite and Power Elite – international bankers, multinational corporations, oligarchs, dynastic families) have taken complete control of the US government. The Elite are using a sophisticated and complex group of interconnected methods to keep control over governance, policy, and law in the United States – and, to a great extent, to remain hidden behind the curtain. This document exposes and breaks down the 9 main ways that the Elite control the US government, through their complete control over the entire election system (the “electoral paradigm”), thus embedding Elite-aligned individuals in virtually every position of high office in the USA. These embedded agents (representatives of the Elite, masquerading as representatives of the people) “legalize” criminal looting and tyranny, and ensure that the Elite will not be successfully prosecuted and convicted for their crimes. Make no mistake that theirs is a criminal syndicate – a criminal syndicate that makes the Mafia look like Cub Scouts. This document also exposes a plan and strategy for US citizens to legally and non-violently negate all 9 of the Elite's control mechanisms over elections, to oust their embedded minions, and to create – for the first time ever – a true government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

It doesn't take a genius to understand what the Elite are doing, and how they are doing it. However, it is not something that fits on a cardboard sign or can be shouted from a moving vehicle. It also doesn't take a genius to understand why nothing that we have tried so far will ever work – but, by thoroughly examining the methods that the Elite use, that we can formulate a plan and a strategy that will work.

We have become trained (mostly by advertising and marketing psychology) to look for short catch-phrases, memes, and "sound bytes" – just enough info that can be spoken in one breath, shown in a single TV screen, or crammed onto a cardboard sign. Anything longer, or that takes some real thought, is considered (by some people) as “too complex.” If that describes you, save yourself a headache and stop reading this right now –
and go enjoy your Gilligan's Island reruns. If you are still here, realize that this info is not really all that complicated, it just requires more than a sound byte to explain.

First of all, “the Elite” does not include middle class and upper middle class people that worked their asses off and have a nice home and two cars. The Elite possess a thousand to tens of thousands times more wealth than anyone in the middle class. Above and beyond that, – and more importantly – the Elite possess power. In fact, this very small group of Elite possess virtually all power. Senators and Representatives and even presidents are not the Elite – they are tools, minions, henchmen of the Elite. Tools of the Elite are well-rewarded – financially and with prestige – but that still does not make them part of the Elite.

The Elite that have taken over the US government are not “Americans”, regardless what their passport says or where their largest mansion is located. The Elite are “globalists” without any real loyalty to any nation. This is shown by the ease with which they off-shored all exportable US domestic jobs to slave-wage nations, by their willingness to sell US public infrastructure like ports, toll roads, bridges, and monuments to the highest foreign bidder, and by creating globalist/corporatist “trade” agreements such as NAFTA and the TPP. Numerous (non-mainstream) economists have also said that the Elite are in the process of collapsing the US economy and US dollar, as it suits their greed-driven, sociopathic agenda. You need to understand who the enemy really is. Our enemy is not the militarized police or the DHS or the military or even congresspersons – those are just tools of the Elite. The Elite that have taken over the US government are the enemy of democracy and the enemy of the people of the United States.

The Elite took control of the US government by taking control of the electoral paradigm, allowing them to embed Elite-aligned agents into virtually every high office position. The solution to US citizens taking control of the US government lies in dismantling the 9 control mechanisms that the Elite use to control the electoral paradigm. Even if you read this document and remain convinced that US citizens cannot defeat the Elite and take control of our own governance, at least you will finally understand the 9 mechanisms that they use – and use so effectively – to control the electoral paradigm. You will understand that it is not just money (money ranks 4th, 5th, and 6th on the list of the 9 mechanisms of electoral paradigm control.)

Using the understanding of who the enemy of democracy actually is, and who are simply the temporary minions, tools, and mercenaries of the Elite, you will be presented with a reasoned argument to stop trying to defeat the Elite by taking the fight to the wrong front (fighting politicians and politics by voting in the Elite-controlled electoral paradigm, protest, petitions, etc.) and a compelling argument of exactly how and why to take the fight directly to the Elite – through our actions on their corporate empires, to force the electoral paradigm changes that We the People need to gain self-governance.

You see, this isn't a snappy sound-byte message that works well on a cardboard sign:
but it is not really all that complex, either.

- There are 9 ways that the Elite have “gamed” the system and have taken complete control of the entire electoral paradigm.
- It will take one new law – the Election Reform Act – and one new amendment – Amendment XXVIII (the Election Reform Amendment) – to take away all 9 ways that the Elite now use to control elections, and to put US elections into the hands of US citizens (where it belongs.)

So, why hasn't anyone figured this out before? Well, the Elite run elections like a magician's stage show, with a great deal of distraction, hidden deception, and sleight-of-hand. The main distraction is money – piles and piles of money – an obscene amount of money, and that makes it appear that the Elite control elections just with money. The other distractions (and there are many), are mainly handled by the corporate media. The media used to be “the Fourth Estate”, stood for the truth, were real journalists, were independent, and exposed fraud and deception. Now the media is not just controlled by the Elite; the media is (literally) owned by the Elite. The takeover of the media has been slow and methodical, replacing real journalists with integrity with “teleprompter readers” who are not even allowed to do any real investigative reporting. They read whatever they are told to read, and what they read is a script, scripted by the Ruling Elite. Television “news” programs now deliver propaganda, written by the government employees (who were vetted by the Elite, sponsored into power by the Elite, and remain under the thumb of the Elite), and by the Elite's corporate public relations departments themselves.

It's not just the news that is pro-corporate and pro-militarist slanted propaganda, it is everything broadcast about elections and candidates. The 5 corporate giant Elite-owned media corporations completely control all of the dialogue surrounding elections: they tell us who is a viable candidate, ignore (or character assassinate) candidates and even entire political parties that the Elite do not want in power, and control exactly what issues are even mentioned and which are ignored. Did you really think that gay marriage was a bigger issue than illegal and unjust wars, trillions of dollars of banking and stock trading fraud, and the disassembly of the US Constitution?

But the most powerful thing that the Elite do to control elections is done even before the wads of cash are flashed and even before the media controls the stage show. The most powerful thing the Elite do to control
elections is to control and maintain the duopoly and to pre-select the duopoly candidate pool. That way, no matter what, the Elite win. Did you really think it was just a coincidence that 60% of Congress are corporate lawyers and the remaining 40% are almost exclusively affluent corporate businesspersons – and that nearly 100% of Congresspersons are aligned with the Elite agenda? Did you really think the Elite were going to allow a bunch of ordinary citizens – without Elite strings attached – to get into power and spoil their party?

If you have read and have understood the previous 3 paragraphs, then you now know the main control mechanisms the Elite use to control elections, and you should also realize why nothing that we have tried so far could possibly work to get the Elite out of control: we have never really addressed the most critical methods that the Elite use to maintain control of elections.

1. We have to remove their ability to pre-select the candidates and use their duopoly to filter out all others.

2. We have to remove their power to control elections through their media.

Those are the top 2 of the 9 ways that the Elite control elections – and no activist organization has ever addressed those issues. If US citizens want to control US elections, those two methods of control by the Elite must be stopped. Yes, of course, we US citizens also have to take away their monetary power, but we must not underestimate the power of the top 2 of the 9 ways the Elite control elections. (Numbers 4, 5, and 6 are monetary.) The Reset Button is a plan to remove ALL of the Elite's control over elections.

Get ALL money, ALL influence, and ALL control of the Financial Elite and Power Elite out of U.S. elections, and elect ordinary citizens without ties to the Elite. Does it sound too simplistic? Good! This needs to be something easily identified and supported by most US citizens. What US citizen could object to fair and honest elections? With a 91% disapproval rating of Congress, what US citizen would object to retiring all of the currently elected and appointed officials? What US citizen would not want fair and honest representation, from a representative that works for citizens rather than for corporations? For the sake of simplicity, we will call this “Election Reform”, knowing that it is really electoral paradigm transformation. The plan itself is simple, but the specifics of the new “Election Reform” legislation are comprehensive and will accomplish our goal.

This first critical step will require one law and one amendment: Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) and the passage of the Election Reform Act. Once the citizens of the US control US governance, we can refine the electoral process further, to include things like instant runoff voting, and solve the gerrymandering issue – but we need this simple, critical step of removing control of elections by the Financial Elite and Power Elite first. Until we do this, we are only protesters and disgruntled voters, shouting at the castle walls, from outside the castle walls, permanently.

Whether you are an activist or a concerned citizen that knows that there are numerous problems involving corruption, collusion, and simply having representatives that work for bankers and corporations instead of us (the American public) – deep down you know that the problems will never be solved until all three branches of the US government are filled from wall-to-wall with honest people, ordinary citizens with no ties to banks and corporations.

Until The Reset Button was written, there was no comprehensive, workable plan to really make this happen – though numerous individuals and organizations have been working on plans that resemble pieces and parts of The Reset Button. If you are a citizen of the United States that truly wants the BIG problems solved, and if you understand that those currently in power work for corporations and banks – and they have absolutely no intention of solving these BIG problems – then you have two choices:

1.) Following the plan and the strategy in The Reset Button, retire all elected and appointed officials now in power, get ALL the money, influence, and control out of politics and elections, elect all new
officials – but for the first time ever, only elect ordinary citizens vetted not to have ties to corporations and banks. For the first time ever, we will actually have a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. If this is what you want, and you refuse to simply continue to dream about it, read on.

2.) Do anything else. This could be just giving up and watching TV, or it could be begging or screaming at the current politicians and bankers to change themselves. Both have exactly the same net result: no change. No need to keep reading. The remote control is right there on the couch, under the pillow. Or, grab some cardboard and a marker, write, “End Corporate Greed!” and stand on the street corner.

If you are an activist, realize that The Reset Button's plan and strategy is not something to replace what you are already working towards – it is in addition to your activism. It is, in fact, the first steps that must be taken if any activism is to succeed. Accomplishing the goals of the Reset Button increases a thousandfold the chance that the goals of your activism can actually be accomplished – because all of the resistance to your goals currently comes from corporate-aligned government officials. With newly elected representatives that are all ordinary citizens vetted not to have any ties to corporations, we can accomplish anything.

If you are an activist, dedicated to some specific facet of the cluster of big problems, please realize that The Reset Button is a type of Trojan Horse strategy. The Election Reform goal of The Reset Button is probably not your dedicated goal – but it IS the critical step we need to take in order to put us in a position (inside the castle walls; inside the government) to realize our other goals. Most activists know failure very well, but are unaccustomed to success. You may need to remind yourself not to be afraid of success, and be enough of a visionary to see how critical and powerful this step will be: having ordinary citizens with no corporate ties in governance will remove the obstacles to success in each facet of our activism.

Can the goals of The Reset Button be accomplished without any of the well-known current activists? Possibly, but it would be much harder. Even though there are now quite a few individuals that “get it” and realize we all need to be leaders in a “leader-full” movement of the people, there are still quite a few people that are going to take their cues from trusted activists in a leadership roles. Some activists will keep doing only what they have been doing, in accordance with Einstein's definition of insanity. But, for those activists with vision that is wide and deep, that are not “controlled opposition”, and are not just passionate but are also intelligent enough to recognize a plan and a strategy that can work, please step forward and give your full support to The Reset Button. We the People need your leadership.

If you are not an activist, realize that The Reset Button addresses the most critical issue in governance: removing the control of the Financial Elite and Power Elite over elections and elected representatives. This will allow – for the first time in the history of the US – a true government of the people, by the people, and for the people. We will quickly blossom into the great nation that is our potential, once we shake off the Financial Elite and Power Elite leeches and take control of our own destiny.

If you believe that the comprehensive approach of The Reset Button is too big to be accomplished, and that we can achieve the same goal (a government of the people) by simply attacking corporate funding of elections or even by sequentially attacking each of the 9 ways that the Elite control the electoral paradigm one-at-a-time, consider us as sitting in the middle of the ocean in a small boat with 9 large holes in the bottom: we either repair all 9 holes or we drown. Another applicable analogy is a chicken coop with 9 open doors, and a hungry fox outside: we either close all 9 doors or the fox controls the hen house.

The Financial Elite and Power Elite certainly do use money as the most obvious way to control elections. They spent an astounding $6 Billion in 2012. However, it is a red herring to believe that money is their only

way to control elections, or even their most powerful way to control elections. Study the 9 ways that the Elite control the electoral paradigm, and you'll realize that even if we had strictly publicly funded elections, but allowed the Elite to control all other aspects of the elections, that all seats of high office would still be occupied by Elite-aligned, Elite pre-selected, Elite-vetted, Elite-supported, corporatist Democrats and Republicans – who represent the Elite, not the citizens of the US. There will never be a government of the people in the US until the people control elections.

“When citizens finally control elections... citizens will finally control governance.”

Currently, you and I have no control over our governance, and money is just one of the control mechanisms the Financial Elite and Power Elite use to ensure that their agenda is fulfilled. We have to put an end to this right now, or forever be silenced. This is probably our last chance, and only if a critical mass of ordinary citizens, “We the People”, unite and work together on this critical common cause. Please have the courage to support The Reset Button.

If you are not a US citizen, realize that US citizens finally gaining control of the US government will greatly and positively impact every country in the world as well, and hopefully, this document will inspire you to make a workable plan to take back your country too! Please support US citizens in our critical mission. In addition to your support, you can participate by divesting from all large US corporations, if you hold any stock. And, use the Internet – help us spread the word!

[4] The Supreme Court's Citizens United Decision has led to an explosion of campaign spending
http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/politics/2012/03/the_supreme_court_s_citizens_united_decision_has_led_to_an_explosion_of_campaign_spending_.html
The Reset Button Background

The original The Reset Button document was published on July 7th, 2011, and was an urgent call to create a new movement, with a strategy and a plan for ordinary US citizens to gain control of our (now corporate-controlled) government.

The original version of The Reset Button document was published a few weeks before the AdBusters crew brainstormed the notion to spur protesters to “Occupy Wall Street.” The Reset Button document was being researched and written just before the time that Kevin Zeese and Dr. Margaret Flowers banded together with other well-known activists, to form the October 2011 Movement (who then “occupied” in Washington, DC), and at the same time that Foster Gamble's post-production work was being done on the new documentary, Thrive, and the Thrive Movement. Lawrence Lessig and David Cobb (now the cornerstones of “Rootstrikers” and “Move to Amend”, respectively) were already speaking out about campaign finance reform and the need to overturn the Supreme Court case commonly referred to with the Orwellian doublespeak title of “Citizens United.”

What does it say, that all of these people independently and simultaneously were working on plans to try to finally do something meaningful, about the same cluster of issues? It is an obvious indication that these issues have grown so enormous that they occupy all of our minds, and all of our hearts. It is an indication that many people finally realize that we need a huge people's movement – because We the People are getting trampled beneath the feet of bankers, corporate moguls, oligarchs – all using the politicians that they embedded into high office positions of governance.

The elephant in the room is that our elected and appointed officials – Democrats and Republicans alike – work for banks and corporations, not for us. They will never change themselves, no matter how much we yell at them or sign petitions or vote (using the present, thoroughly corrupt, election system.) The banks, corporations, and oligarchs that control these officials also control the entire current electoral system, so it is impossible to vote-in a majority of honest officials that work for citizens. The electoral system has to be made transformed, first. We have to simultaneously eliminate every way that Elite money and Elite power is used to control elections.

We know that we need to be organized and united in historic numbers and focused as never before – to finally achieve a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

Of course, in addition to the activists in the Occupy Movement, there are thousands of other activists, typically focused on and targeting one major issue – such as the Tar Sands XL pipeline, or anti-war/pro-peace activism, or ending corporate personhood, or fighting for real health care reform, or fighting against GMOs...

Many of these activists have been fighting for decades – some, for the greater part of their lives. Hopefully, all activists will recognize the truth that nothing will change until we get all of the corrupting influence of money, influence, and control of the Financial Elite and Power Elite out of U.S. elections, and elect ordinary citizens with no corporate ties.

Actually, tens of thousands of activists are currently working together – loosely – at least in solidarity and support. Although different activists have different focal points, we all want to see the end of the corporate takeover of the US government, the end of deep corruption in politics and elections, and the beginning of a new era in governance – where the agenda of the US government is the agenda of the citizens of the US – not the agenda of corporations and banks. The time has come for all activists to stand together. Stand
together not just in passionate conviction, but stand together with directed purpose, with a united plan and united strategy to actually make the first critical step happen.

Many millions of US citizens are not protesters or activists, but see these same issues – and they are also expressing their anger and frustration. Many ordinary US citizens are ready to help in any way possible to finally solve these issues – if they only knew how! The key to solving any of these important issues is being in positions (executive, legislative, and judicial) to actually do something about these issues. How do we – ordinary citizens – get into a position to actually do anything? The answer is the strategy behind The Reset Button.

This document speaks to every US citizen, not just protesters and activists. This document is for everyone that wants a government “of the people, by the people, and for the people” – with the best possible citizen candidates getting elected to represent the citizens of the US. This document is for everyone who wants fair, honest elections – not controlled by those with the most money. It really is that simple. Without fair elections, ordinary citizens will never have a voice.

Currently, money and influence rules politics. Money and influence controls politics. Money controls elections. 94% of the time, whoever spends the most on an election, wins. We all know this is not right. This is not good for the country or the citizens of the US. Every year, it gets worse. No one knows how to stop it, and, of course the people with the most money do not want it stopped – they get exactly the representatives that they paid for. Worse, it is not just money, but the current system of control by influence of the Elite. The Elite control both of the duopoly political parties and the mass media. This influence is utterly insurmountable by other (“third”) parties. The Reset Button offers a solution that will get all money, influence, and control out of politics and elections, and for the first time in US history, actually allow ordinary US citizens – not corporations, not citizens with the most money and clout – to elect ordinary citizens that have no ties to corporations and banks.

This is the key: Allow ordinary US citizens – not corporations, not citizens with the most money or clout – to elect ordinary citizens that have no ties to corporations and banks.

The corruption in America has never been more obvious, never more rampant, and millions of citizens are ready to act against the corruption. We citizens are "handled", "managed", "directed", "herded" hoodwinked and lied to by the Power Elite – using their complete control of all mass media outlets to control what we can even glimpse of the real workings behind the curtain. Yes, millions of people are ready to act, but only if they see a workable plan, a strategy that everyone can readily see will be successful.

Let's be clear that we do not just need a “step in the right direction” (such as just overturning Citizens United.) Make no mistake: the US government was corrupt, colluded, and completely in the hands of the Financial Elite and Power Elite well before the 2010 Citizens United Supreme Court decision.

There have been numerous other aspects of corrupt and inept governance, as well as government collusion with banks and corporations, long before these new policies took effect. The astounding depth and breadth of governmental corruption and collusion eliminates the possible effectiveness of any “simple repairs” and instead force us to demand – and to perform – a major overhaul. This is not a “reformist” plan, in spite of the gentle title – this is a complete transformation of the electoral paradigm, doing everything necessary to remove all influence – monetary and non-monetary – of the Financial Elite and Power Elite. A key element in our strategy is that we must demand this of ourselves, that we the people will solve the issues when ordinary citizens are in elected positions. We will no longer demand, ask, or beg the current politicians to resolve these problems that they have created and that they deliberately maintain as the status quo.
We, the people of the United States, are experiencing the effects of rule by the Financial Elite and Power Elite, using the tool of unrestrained capitalism: unprecedented redistribution of wealth into the hands of the few at the expense of the many, and permanent financial enslavement of debt for the working class. It is class war. There are astoundingly few in the true upper class, the Ruling Elite. It is not really 1%, but actually a much smaller percentage, perhaps 0.01% of the population that rules all of us, and rule us according to their agenda. The breaking point has been reached. This document is not a complete history lesson of how we got to this state, but rather it is the solution to get us out of it.

Clever oligarchs have financially sponsored elected officials and steered legislation to further enable and protect oligarchs. Clearly, we the people have lost our representative voice and our power (if we ever honestly had a voice and power.) Clearly, we the people need to change the mechanism of elections to gain our rightful self-representative voice and remove the self-serving voice of the oligarchs. This is our number one task. Nothing must stand in our way of gaining complete control over the electoral process – and completely blocking the Financial Elite and Power Elite from having any control over the electoral process.

Where does The Reset Button document fit into this?

The Reset Button defines a goal, (a true government of the people), and offers a plan and strategy to achieve that goal. The very first thing that must be done to create a government of the people is to transform the electoral paradigm. With an electoral paradigm created and controlled by ordinary citizens that completely rejects any control by the Financial Elite and Power Elite, we can simultaneously replace all of the agents of the Elite with ordinary US citizens that have no corporate or banking ties, no ties to oligarchs. That is the goal of The Reset Button (which is true Election Reform.)

Completely publicly funded elections is just the start: The Reset Button would also change the way that candidates are presented for consideration: no political parties, and each candidate must present a written Position Paper on a couple of dozen topics that are the true critical issues at the time of each election (not fluff.) No more just smiling pretty, avoiding disclosure of positions, and getting elected.

The Reset Button is a comprehensive approach with the goal and the plan to simultaneously close down every pathway the Financial Elite and Power Elite use to control politics, elections, and governance. Not just attempting to get the money, influence, and control out of politics by closing the Financial Elite and Power Elite's pathways of control one-at-a-time (sequentially) – it must be done simultaneously. This is critically important! This is a new and different approach. All pathways the Financial Elite and Power Elite use to control US elections (and thus the US government) must be closed simultaneously.

Until true Election Reform is accomplished, we the people are simply protesters, protesting from outside the government, demanding that “they” solve the problems that they created. This is an insane approach! “They” have no intention of solving the problems! They do not see plutocracy as a problem! Only from positions inside the government can we solve the huge problems (war-for-profit, predatory banking, dirty energy, climate change, economy, education, health care, etc., etc.) We citizens may disagree on which problems are the most pressing problems, and how to solve them, but that is within the realm of the Candidate Position Issues section of The Reset Button – but we're getting ahead of ourselves. We citizens can have healthy, honest, and open debate on all of the issues brought up in The Reset Button Candidate Position Issues section after we take the bold, brilliant, and critical first step of transforming the electoral paradigm to keep agents of the Elite out of power and to get ordinary citizens into all elected and appointed positions.

This is “electoral paradigm transformation”, but we can call it “Election Reform.” Until and unless we accomplish Election Reform, we are wasting our time protesting, petitioning, and yes, even “voting” by
selecting between Elite-aligned candidates that the Elite pre-selected.

**Only from positions inside the government can we solve the problems.** (It bears repeating.)

Currently, virtually all elected and appointed officials in government have either "bought-into" the status quo of the system as it is, or they have been "bought-out" by special interests, corporations, bankers, and oligarchs. In spite of their campaign rhetoric, they do not work for the citizens of the US. They work for special interests, corporations, bankers, and oligarchs. Our only chance is to replace them all, simultaneously.

Currently, the electoral system is set-up to ensure that special interests, corporations, bankers, and oligarchs get to pre-select all (viable) candidates – and that is why things never really change from election to election. Even if we the people could get some individuals with integrity elected, it would only be a handful in each election cycle, and they would drown in a sea of corruption and collusion that defines the system as it is. It is painful, but third parties must face reality: to pass one single citizen-centric bill into federal law, that third party would have to simultaneously elect 357 people (67 Senators and 290 Representatives.) Any less and they would not be able to pass bills or stop corporate-centric bills from being passed. Not one third-party candidate has been elected to Congress in our lifetimes. Not one. We have to stop pretending that we can elect 357 simultaneously. These same high-integrity individuals can only be elected if there are no political parties, and no control of elections by the (Elite-owned) mass media.

We cannot allow the vast majority of elected and appointed positions to remain filled with individuals sponsored into power by special interests, corporations, bankers, and oligarchs. They will not solve the issues and problems that we see as critical – they simply, honestly, and truthfully do not work for us, they are either “owned” or (more likely) they were selected because they agree with corporatocracy.

**Strategy 101:**

- We need to be brilliant – so brilliant that we can create and implement our strategy in public, without the need for surprise or stealth.
- Our strategy must have the overwhelming support of most US citizens.
- Our strategy must be non-violent.

**Could this be our last chance?**

Is there a possibility that The Reset Button is realistically, our very last chance?

Unless you are “living in a cave”, you must have an inkling of a notion that the current US government has been furiously slamming doors shut on any possibility of US citizens performing an intervention before the current US government permanently hands 100% of control of the United States to the Financial Elite and Power Elite (corporations, banks, and a few outrageously rich family dynasties.)

Even if the US government stayed exactly as it is right now, (with nearly 0% representation for citizens and nearly 100% representation for the Financial Elite and Power Elite), if we citizens do nothing, we just gave in to the largest robbery in the history of the planet – possibly as high as 25 trillion dollars, and we agree to our children, grandchildren, and on and on... paying back the money we didn’t steal – plus interest! There is no way citizens can ever, ever, ever, get out from under this debt burden.

The Financial Elite and Power Elite have built the highest-level of domestic spying/”intelligence” and physical security-state infrastructure in the history of the world – far beyond the wildest dreams of the Third Reich – to protect all of the wealth they have accumulated, and to protect the “golden goose” (Congress and the White House) that keeps making it possible for the Financial Elite and Power Elite to retain control,

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while holding the “get out of jail, free” card (control of the 500 federal judges and 9 Supreme Court justices.)

If US citizens actually ever had self-rule and real representation, self-governance by the citizens of the United States has been lost, and has been replaced by oligarchical rule, via corporate and financial institutional control, collusion, and subversion. The Financial Elite and Power Elite have destroyed (by collusion with Congress to create so-called “free trade” laws) the manufacturing backbone of the US, eliminating every job and wage in the US that they possibly could – because they make more profit paying slave wages in third-world countries. There is no chance working people in the US can claw our way out of this.

Trying to get even a handful of people with integrity elected in the crooked system that the Financial Elite and Power Elite set up and control is nearly impossible, and 100% futile. A handful of Congresspersons with integrity is spit on a forest fire. Changing one of the decisions (Citizens United ruling) where they gave themselves more latitude in how they control elections is important only as part of a comprehensive approach – alone, it would be like erecting a lone locked gate in the middle of a prairie; it wouldn't even slow them down as they walk around it.

If we do nothing, we and every generation to follow us, will be born in deep debt and die in deep debt – all because international bankers who run the Federal Reserve and control the world's finance decided (just like the deliberately engineered crash of 1929) that it was time for a big 'crash' to consolidate even more wealth into their hands and to 'crush' our spirits by taking away our homes, and our jobs, and our hope. The nation might eventually recover in a few decades, but without jobs, deep in debt, dependent on the expensive pills Big Pharma has us hooked on to maintain our precarious health, millions of Americans will never recover.

If we do nothing, the Congress that works for the Financial Elite and Power Elite will continue to regulate citizens and deregulate corporations. Citizens without jobs and without homes and without adequate money are headed for prison or the graveyard. Along the way, there is a potential for great violence. The Financial Elite and Power Elite do not need to personally worry for their own safety, from people becoming violent as they become more desperate – they are well insulated in gated communities, protected by private mercenaries, and even underground bunkers. They will send their paid mercenaries – our brothers and sisters – the police and military to be killed by desperate mobs and snipers, and to kill US citizens to protect the spoils of the financial war the Financial Elite and Power Elite just destroyed us with.

With the click of a mouse, or maybe just a nod, when the Financial Elite and Power Elite decide to completely destroy the US dollar because it suits their long-range economic goals, they will nod and they will click – with no remorse. Only then will many Congresspersons realize what they have done, and what they have not done, in their collusion with sociopathic international bankers and soulless trans-national corporations.

This is our very last chance. The protests of the past years have awakened millions, but the time for protesting directed at the Financial Elite and Power Elite or even at Congress has passed. Our remaining words need to be aimed towards complacent and sleeping fellow American citizens and citizens frozen with fear. We need to get through to the comfortable middle-management of the banking and corporate world, and make sure they understand that their collusion is key to the Financial Elite and Power Elite robbing and destroying the lives of millions of US citizens.

The Financial Elite and Power Elite may be insulated from the physical violence, but that means these middle-managers will bear the loathing, the anger, and the wrath of the desperate and dying citizens that have nothing more to lose. Three hundred million guns in the US – the most well-armed civilians in the history of the world. Three hundred million guns. The only way this will end without violence is for all US
citizens to recognize that the enemy is the Financial Elite and Power Elite, to unite, and to remove the Elite's power over elections and thus our governance.

Millions of citizens in other nations have united against their real enemy – ousting the bankers, defaulting on the artificial debt to the bankers, and taking back their countries by removing the all politicians that have all participated in the collusion and the robbery. All it will really take is a few million US citizens saying “Enough!” and – with a General Strike – stopping the goods, the services, and the workflow for a few weeks to a few months. Stopping the corporate wheels from turning for as long as it takes to force the corporations to force the corporate-controlled politicians into signing one law and one amendment to allow US citizens to have real elections.

Since The Reset Button is the only comprehensive proposal to citizens to shake off the corporate collusion and corruption and create a government of the people, The Reset Button is quite likely the last chance for a lawful, peaceful intervention.

Why This Plan?
A number of organizations and solo activists are trying with with their hearts and souls, blood, sweat, and tears to help the United States transform into a better country. Most have made some incremental gains toward that goal, or are at least convinced that things would get even worse, a lot faster, if not for their efforts. I agree. And, I applaud the efforts of every person who has done whatever they could – working towards justice, freedom, sovereignty, and specific goals such as ending war, creating affordable health care, fighting poverty, fighting for the environment and for climate sanity, fighting GMOs, etc.

Most activists are completely overwhelmed. It is as if the bad guys we are chasing in a high-speed chase are dumping oil and throwing refrigerators off the back of their truck, in a high-speed chase. All we can do is react. Who could possibly take the time to stop, consider the "big picture", and try to look for a comprehensive solution so that every passionate activist has a real chance to accomplish their specific goals? Is there anything that all activists have in common in their struggles? Yes, there is. All activists, (who are really champions of the people), confront the same wall – the wall of elected and appointed officials (who are champions of banks and corporations and oligarchs and militarists.) All activists are outside the castle walls, shouting at the walls. All activists need to be on the inside, to be effective.

In a comprehensive strategy, the solution helps all activists, whether their primary goal is stopping war and promoting peace, or stopping financial high-crime, or stopping the onslaught of genetically modified crops, etc. No matter what the specific focus of an activist or concerned citizen, our goal has no chance if we are completely controlled in governance by the exact banks and corporations we are fighting against.

The Reset Button is the only comprehensive solution for the entire scope of the problem. All other proposed solutions would leave the Elite-embedded and Elite-controlled politicians in power, and most importantly, would leave the current completely Elite-controlled election system intact – guaranteeing that the Elite will remain empowered election after election.

The Reset Button is the only proposed solution that even deals with all 3 branches of US government, including the Judicial Branch, headed by the 9 Elite-embedded and Elite-controlled judicial “monarchs”, the Supreme Court. With the present, corrupt, Elite-embedded and Elite-controlled federal judges empowered, there is zero chance of anything resembling justice for all of the high crimes committed against the United States and its people.
The Elite Control US Elections 9 Ways, and The Reset Button Solutions

“Get the money, influence, and control out of elections!” What does that really mean?
Step back, look at the big picture, and you'll see that money and influence controls politics, elections, and politicians in numerous ways. Stop just one or two avenues for money and influence to flow into and control politics, and it will become obvious that money and influence will flow through the other avenues to control politics. That is why “campaign finance reform” alone will not solve this issue. That is why negating “corporate personhood” alone will not solve this issue. That is why “term limits” alone will not solve this issue. All avenues for money and influence that control the election process must be stopped simultaneously.

What are all of the avenues for money and influence to control elections?

The nine (9) Pathways used by the Financial Elite and Power Elite to control elections, in rank order of effectiveness and power to control elections:

1. Political parties (the duopoly)
2. Corporate Mass-Media Paradigm (media stranglehold)
3. Incumbency
4. Corporate Campaign "Donations" ($)
5. Private, non-Corporate, Advocate and Opposition Funding ($)
6. Private, Self-Funding by Candidates ($)
7. Endorsements
8. Election Rigging
9. Supreme Court

(Note that 3 of these are marked with a dollar sign – the 3 pathways for money to control elections. Note that there are 6 more that are non-monetary, including three that rank higher than any monetary pathway. This is why “getting the money out of elections” is only a part of true election reform.)

(The Reset Button addresses and solves the entire list of nine avenues for money and influence to control elections)

Because The Reset Button is focused on election reform (electoral paradigm transformation), it is not specifically focused on the ways that the Elite have been able to control the elected officials after the elections. However, the one Law and one Amendment that are the core of The Reset Button also have a profound effect of negating the influence of the Elite after elections as well:

Elite Control of – and Collusion with – elected politicians, post elections:

1. Lobbying
2. Insider trading information
3. Corporate/political revolving door
4. Rewards for collusion
5. Partisan political endorsement
6. Promise of money for reelection

(The Reset Button, Election Reform, solves most of the six avenues (2 through 6) for the Elite to control politicians while in office. Candidate Position Issues specifically addresses Lobbying.)

Before going through explanations of all of the 9 avenues the Elite use to control elections, let's stop and
look at the concept of The Reset Button's Election Reform, to make sure that it is obvious that it is the only workable, viable plan to solve ANY of the major problems, from Wall Street to Warmongering to International Banksterism to Privatized Health Care Insurance to Dumbed-Down Education to the Environmental Crises...

There are approximately 1500 individuals at or near the top tier of federal governance, including all three branches of government.

- 100 Senators plus 435 Representatives equals 535 elected legislative positions.
- There are about 500 Federal judges and justices – the judicial branch of government, currently all appointed, currently all appointed by two political parties that are Elite funded and Elite controlled.
- In addition to the office of president and vice president, the executive branch of government appoints thousands of positions, of which approximately 500 are near the top-tier in policy and decision making – individuals such as cabinet members, ambassadors, high-level advisers and staff members, and heads of most federal agencies.

So, approximately 1500 individuals actually run the US federal government, and we vote for just a few hundred, every two years. Incumbents win most of the time (some years, incumbents have higher than a 91% success rate!), so actually, elections make very little change in the individuals that are in control. In the years when incumbents won 90% of the time, that means that of the approximately 1500 people that run the US federal government, only about 50 of them are new faces (unless the presidency changes to the other of the two duopoly parties, then the new president may pick new – but still corporate-aligned – faces to run agencies.) 100% of the Judicial Branch of the US federal government remains the same, after each election. 85% to 91% of the US Congress remains unchanged, after each election. In the modern, corporatist era, many of the exact same faces remain in appointed positions even in the case of a flip in which of the two duopoly parties controls the White House – and the very same corporations are represented and protected even when the faces change. Altogether, about 96% to 97% of elected and appointed officials remain the same, election after election. (And, every one of the “new faces” was vetted by corporate influence of the two ruling political parties, to be acceptable to run for office in the Republican or Democrat party.)

It is critical that every US citizen must understand that the Elite have set up the current (and past) electoral paradigm to ensure that Elite-aligned individuals fill all key high-office positions. This current electoral paradigm is exactly the opposite of a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. We the people must reverse this and gain control of our own governance.

There is a pervasive illusion that the problem could be solved by getting a few people with high integrity into office. Though it might be temporarily satisfying to hear a Grayson or a Sanders or a Warren speak out against some particular aspect of the corruption, even they (if they are honest), realize that they are completely impotent when it comes to actually changing any domestic or foreign policy. Thus, they act merely as “pressure relief valves” for the American public. To actually change domestic and foreign policy requires at the very minimum a Congressional majority, in both houses, plus support from the White House. Without presidential support, Congress – both houses – would need a two-thirds majority. That means that 67 high-integrity, non-corporate-aligned Senators and 290 high-integrity, non-corporate-aligned Representatives would need to be elected, simultaneously, that would ignore all Elite/corporate influence and strictly represent US citizens. In the current, Elite-controlled electoral paradigm, this is so far beyond impossible that the word “impossible” inadequately describes the reality.

It should be obvious why nothing ever changes – and nothing ever will – unless full electoral transformation,
such as The Reset Button, is implemented.

Through the nine pathways listed above (in the list, “Pathways used by the Financial Elite and Power Elite to control elections...”), the Financial Elite and Power Elite control every one of the major candidates for office, and retain control of the elected and appointed seats that they already possess. It should be very obvious now that the system of elections (not just the candidates) is completely controlled by the Financial Elite and Power Elite. The electoral system is crooked, gamed, and completely controlled by the Elite to ensure that Elite-aligned candidates control governance, policy, law, and a system of Elite-biased injustice misnamed as “justice.” If the people are really going to have a “government of the people”, then the electoral system must be completely transformed to eliminate every pathway that the Financial Elite and Power Elite use to control elections.

The 9 Election Control Pathways, Explained:
Here's the list (again) of the 9 ways that the Financial Elite and Power Elite control elections (and thus determine who is elected, and who stays empowered):
What are all of the avenues for money and influence to control politics?

Control of elections:

1. Political parties (the duopoly)
2. Corporate Mass-Media Paradigm (media stranglehold)
3. Incumbency
4. Corporate Campaign "Donations" ($)
5. Private, non-Corporate, Advocate and Opposition Funding ($)
6. Private, Self-Funding by Candidates ($)
7. Endorsements
8. Election Rigging
9. Supreme Court

1. Political parties (the duopoly)
There has never been a fair election for any high office in the United States of America. Never. Every election since the founding of the US has allowed the Financial Elite and Power Elite to pre-select the candidates that were acceptable to them, then the populace gets to select from between those candidates.

The very existence of the duopoly is similar to the 'dirty trick', taught in professional sales training, called the “assumptive close.” To “close” (to complete) a sale, the salesman purposely manipulates the customer, forcing the false assumption that the customer will immediately make a purchase: the salesperson distracts the customer with a related question that is actually a trap: For example, (without giving the customer a chance to decide if they are ready to make a purchase or not), the salesman says, “We deliver in your area on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Which day would work out better for you?”

This is exactly what is being done in US elections, and the current trick question is, “Do you prefer the Democrat or the Republican?”
Your answer should be, “Allow me to make my own decision – from among all candidates, not your pre-selected two!” (And none of the candidates should be Elite-aligned; all should be citizen-aligned.)

We go into the voting booth, and the illusion of free choice is to be able to pick from either of the two candidates that were pre-selected for us and made into the “only” viable options by the Elite, using their control of both duopoly parties and the media! For many, the choice is between “the lesser of two evils” – even though both candidates were selected by the Elite, for the Elite, and both candidates are vetted corporatists. Imagine the difference of going into a voting booth and (rather than selecting between the lesser of two corporate-backed “evils”), selecting the best of ten independent (non-partisan) candidates that are all vetted to have no corporate affiliation and no corporate backing whatsoever – and that were required to supply, in writing, their positions on a couple of dozen major issues. That alone would be a major electoral paradigm transformation.

Currently, fierce loyalty to either one of the only two viable political parties (or fierce hatred of the “other” party) makes it difficult for some to see, but the reality is that both the Democrat and Republican parties are parties of the oligarchs, not of the people. Almost no one who is a true champion of the citizens, could ever make it through their screening process. The “screening process”, (where the oligarchs pre-select candidates acceptable to themselves), actually starts even before the partisan “primary election” pre-selection process. Any eligible US citizen can say they want to run, but only those supported by oligarchs are given the duopoly partisan stamp of approval, the required money, attention, and (corporate-owned) media coverage to effectively run. The financial and influential control of both parties by oligarchs is the number one reason that the status quo of governance by minions of the Financial Elite and Power Elite is always protected, and that Financial Elite and Power Elite's interests are always served. Thus the observation that there is really only one political party – the oligarch's party. Yes, different corporations and individuals may strongly support one of the two duopoly parties, but the Elite at the tip-top of the pyramid don't really care which of the two duopoly parties is in control – as long as one of their duopoly parties is in control.

Laws are passed in Congress by simple majority (more than 50% : 51 Senators plus 218 Representatives), and often require a 2/3rd majority (67% : 67 Senators plus 290 Representatives), so having a handful or even a few dozen third-party or D or R congresspersons that are “champions of the people” is statistically insignificant: they can never and will never pass any citizen-centric legislation. Worse, the agents of the Financial Elite and Power Elite do have those majorities – and can (and do) easily pass an enormous amount of corporate-centric legislation.

For the vast majority of US citizens, whichever candidates are pre-selected for them before the primary process, then distilled to two contenders in the duopoly primary process are the only ones believed to be viable – the only ones they would even consider voting for (or against.) Republicans and Democrats represent the Elite, the Elite own all major media, and they will never willingly give away that advantage. It is an impossible dream to dream that a third party could ever gain more than a smattering of seats in Congress. Plus, whichever ruling party (between the two ruling parties) that currently controls the executive branch determines and fills all available seats in federal judicial positions – ensuring that the oligarchs and corporations are well-represented in (and well-protected by) all high judicial positions.

This is a good place to stop and take note that, in all likelihood, very few candidates for high office are actually “bought-off” (bribed.) There is no need to bribe a potential candidate that is already Elite-aligned and already an “Elite Wannabee.” In fact, many of them probably already imagine
themselves as part of the Elite crowd, regardless if they have much personal wealth or power, yet. Of course, whether the Elite-aligned candidates go into office wealthy, almost all elected officials in high office somehow \{wink, wink, nudge, nudge\} end up wealthy after serving in office.

Any overall plan to “get the money, influence, and control out of politics” that does not address getting rid of partisan politics is beyond ridiculously inept – in fact, it is guaranteed to fall short of any meaningful change. The 2-party (duopoly) scam of candidate pre-selection by the Financial Elite and Power Elite, coupled with the mass media to promote those pre-selected candidates and crush or ignore all others are the most important control mechanisms for the Financial Elite and Power Elite to stay in full control of elections – and thus governance.

The Financial Elite and Power Elite have used powerful psychology on all of us, to help engender loyalty to the duopoly by encouraging our loyalty to one of the two duopoly political parties – just like loyalty to a sports team, only we identify even more deeply with our political party affiliation. For most people, it is currently one of the defining characteristics for our entire adult life. Because of this, giving up political parties will be difficult for citizens that identify with duopoly (or even “third”) parties. However, if we are ever going to have a real freedom of choice in elections – and not just the duopoly – it is critical that we abandon the concept of political parties and especially to abandon the practice of allowing the Elite to use two vastly dominant parties that they control to pre-select candidates for us, and make them into the only “viable” options. As long as the duopoly exists, the Elite will control elections – and thus governance.

The financial and influential control exercised by oligarchs, regarding just exactly which two pre-selected candidates appear on the ballot, in newspapers, and on television, is the most powerful way that oligarchs control who gets elected – every time, election after election. We citizens have been chumps. We the people have been manipulated into believing that partisan politics is normal, and is a natural process of selection of the fittest to serve the citizens and the nation. It most certainly is not. It is the main entrance, the front door, for the Financial Elite and Power Elite to control elections, to embed the people that best serve the agenda of Financial Elite and Power Elite.

Political parties cannot be reformed, not even if the oligarch's money is cut-off. The political parties already have their corporate identities and affiliations, their lifeblood, their allegiance to oligarchs and corporations. Imagine having ten non-partisan candidates to choose from among, in elections for high office, instead of two pre-selected partisan candidates to choose between. Once we overturn this archaic system, we will laugh at ourselves for falling for this Elite-centric 2-party ruse for so long.

The Reset Button will make political parties moot. With no primary elections, no political parties written on ballots, and candidates unable to accept any money from any organization (or individual), political parties and the oligarchs that fund them will instantly lose their number one pathway to control elections.

In addition, and of major significance, The Reset Button (in the Election Reform Act) would mandate a method that fully exposes candidate positions, with no ability to hide behind campaign rhetoric or avoid the major issues. For the first time in the history of the US, voters would actually know (in-writing) where every candidate stands on all major issues. Further, the Election Reform Act provides a uniform process for recall of elected officials, if elected officials refuse to live up to their written positions or fail to serve the citizens and the nation.

2. Corporate Mass-Media Paradigm (media stranglehold)
Two numbers to keep in mind: 5 and 94.

There are currently just 5 corporations that control all mass media (television from news to entertainment, radio, newspaper, and magazines. As of this writing, the Internet is the only media outlet they do not completely control. 5 corporate executives have (and use) the power to control our minds and form our opinions and worldview as much as they possibly can.

94% of the time, the candidate that spends the most money on marketing/advertising wins, so a candidate without massive financial backing has no chance of creating a winning strategy in modern mass media. Some media outlets may act as prostitutes, performing services for whichever duopoly candidate pays. Most media outlets give preferential treatment to the specific duopoly political party or candidate of their choice, and that preferential treatment might include time-slot placement, better rates, or running negative ads against competitor candidates, for example. (Negative advertising was actually what the “Citizens United” case was about.) Even the very act of repetition – mentioning a candidate's name over and over – is a powerful tool to program the public to accept a candidate or accept the candidate's viability. Dismissing and ignoring other candidates creates the equally powerful meme that they are not viable.

In addition, corporate mass media perform the service of a filter, allowing specific topics to take center stage in the political arena, and minimizing or even ignoring other issues of much greater importance to the citizens of the US. They control the dialogue, control the meme from news broadcasts to talk shows to sitcoms. They also provide smoke and mirrors when called for. This is why, for example, gay rights issues and gun-control became pivotal talking points while the ongoing war-for-profit paradigm, crumbling financial infrastructure, banking and trading corruption, and collusion between politicians, bankers, and traders were minimized or even ignored to death in the US elections in 2008, 2010 and 2012. Anything less than using the word “propaganda” to describe mass media would be inaccurate.

The legislation in The Reset Button removes ALL corporate and private spending on elections, forces the mass media outlets to provide equal time and prominence for all candidates for an office, mandates that several debates by all candidates must be carried by major media outlets, and mandates that all candidates produce a “Position Paper” on the real issues, not fluff. These required position papers cover all of the (more than) two dozen major topics discussed in The Reset Button Candidate Position Issues section (which are the same topics that activists are working on – the truly important topics that need immediate attention.)

Mass media is corporate controlled media, and worse, now over 95% of all mass media (all television networks, all television stations, all radio stations, all major newspapers, all major magazines) are owned by just 5 giant corporations! Imagine that five people (the five CEOs) could sit down at your kitchen table and determine exactly which candidates are going to get supported, who is going to get ignored, who is going to get undermined or even ridiculed, as well as which subjects are “important” and which are taboo because they would expose affiliated corporations misdeeds and crimes. Because of the tremendous power of mass media, this is second only to political parties in determining who wins elections. In fact, if this was the only tool the Financial Elite and Power Elite had left, they could still control elections!

The Reset Button Election Reform takes corporate mass media out of the game.
3. Incumbency

Incumbent candidates have a ridiculously high rate of success in campaigns – recently higher than 90% of incumbents retaining their seats in House of Representatives' races, for example. There are obvious psychological advantages to being the incumbent, but when the country as a whole shows very strong dissatisfaction with Congress but votes them back in, there is more than simple psychological advantage at play. Another major factor is that through the process of gerrymandering, districts are unethically divided up to give either the Democrats or the Republicans a powerful advantage in retaining the one candidate that the district was gerrymandered to protect. Gerrymandering becomes muted in effectiveness when political parties are made moot, but fair representation of each State's population will also require apolitical redistricting.

Incumbency creates problems beyond simply being retained in office. In addition to cronyism, dominance by longevity, and wielding undue power via seniority, incumbents become targets for the Financial Elite and Power Elite to try to corrupt into collusion, and/or create a target for the Financial Elite and Power Elite to undermine or protect, depending on the elected official's performance as it pertains to business interests of the Financial Elite and Power Elite. Citizens have had so few “half-way decent” officials representing us that this may seem like something that some of us do not want to relinquish, but the benefits far outweigh the downside. With ordinary citizens representing citizens and citizens' interests, it will no longer be a rarity for the electorate to feel represented, and will be easy to accept each new group of elected officials. We will also discover that there rally was nothing special about the celebrities we kept electing – and that an honest, ordinary citizen can easily fulfill the position.

Lawrence Lessig correctly points out that elected officials spend the majority of their time in office seeking alliances to help them get reelected, and spend much of the final year of their term running a campaign rather than working in their elected position. That is eliminated by making all positions single-term. The need to strike alliances and finagle backroom deals toward reelection is a guarantee that the official will be compromised. With no incumbency, each elected official is able to retain their integrity. Without the carrot of reelection to dangle in front of an elected official, the Elite will find their ability to manipulate has dried up. Opportunity for collusion dries up. “One term and out” may also attract some bright people to serve that otherwise would never have – because they did not want to pursue the lifelong career in politics that is usually required to gain the favor of the duopoly for a high office position.

The Reset Button simply eliminates incumbency by making all elected and appointed offices into 4-year service positions, with no ability to ever run for the same office again.

4. Corporate Campaign “Donations” ($)

Before the Supreme Court decision on the Citizens United case, corporate entities donated massive amounts of money to political campaigns. Of course, some of it had to be less overt than it is now. Some of the money used to be directed to specific candidates with a nudge and a wink, funneled through Political Action Committees. Even with the hoops that corporations, or corporate executives, needed to swim through, they still dominated electoral funding and thus controlled the outcomes of elections. In 2008, Barack Obama received (via PAC) over one million dollars from Goldman Sachs, before the Citizens United decision was in-play. Yes, it is easier now (since the 2010 SCOTUS decision), and the dollar amounts are now overtly larger, but simply overturning Citizens United would certainly not stop corporations and corporate executives from being the most significant contributors to candidates, thus controlling elections. Remember that 94% of the time, the candidate

Target Corporation's direct contribution of $150,000.00 and Best Buy Corporation's $100,000.00 contribution to MN Forward for the campaign of Tom Emmer for Minnesota governor in 2010 is an example of a direct contribution towards the marketing of a candidate. Charles and David Koch, the “Koch Brothers”, reportedly shake-down numerous other corporate entities, such as Menards, for as much as $1,000,000.00 each, to fund campaigns for candidates friendly to the Koch agenda.

There are several activist organizations (such as Move To Amend) that have put in many, many hours to educate citizens and are trying to get the Citizens United ruling overturned. This effort is far from wasted, and may be the single most important “wake-up call” to average US citizens that something is so desperately wrong in US elections that we need to do something about it – now! Hopefully, these activists will recognize that limiting corporate “donations” (one major aspect of campaign finance reform) is not the only pathway that the Financial Elite and Power Elite use to control elections. A comprehensive approach is needed, that addresses every one of the 9 methods that the Financial Elite and Power Elite use to control elections. The Reset Button legislation does address corporate personhood, and embraces within the comprehensive plans laid out in this document the negation of the Citizens United ruling, as part of the overall strategy.

The Reset Button will mandate that there will be no corporate money in elections. None. Zero. All funding will be public, (and will be a very modest amount in comparison with the billions spent now.) The Candidate Position Papers – actually informing voters, for the first time ever, about candidate positions – are substituted for the celebrity aura, media circus, and wars between ad agencies advertising candidates using hype, psychology, emotion, and often misinformation.

The Reset Button eliminates corporate donations (along with eliminating all other campaign donations.)

5. Private, non-Corporate, Advocate and Opposition Funding ($)
“Swift Boat.” It makes no difference if you were for or against John Kerry in the 2004 presidential election, you have to recognize the power not only of negative political advertising, but of political advertising in general. It is far from certain that the money for the “swift boat’ ads really came all from private citizens, but let's assume that it did. You now have a case of wealthy private citizens able to steer and possibly even determine the outcome of elections. It is ridiculous to allow the affluent to control elections this way.

Currently, private, non-corporate, advocate and opposition funding could come from an individual or an organized group, such as a “PAC” (Political Action Committee.) Funding candidates – whether by individuals acting alone or in concert, creates nearly identical problems as corporate donations. The results of electing candidates based on who can amass the largest pile of money should be painfully clear to all of us by now.

The Reset Button Election Reform makes all elections strictly publicly funded, eliminating all private funding for marketing and advertising – whether advocating for or in opposition to a candidate.

6. Private, Self-Funding by Candidates ($) 
Ross Perot actually spent over 12 million dollars in 1992 attempting to gain the presidency. Michael Bloomberg has said that he would be willing to spend up to one billion dollars, if he runs for the
presidency. Note that even if *Citizens United* is overturned, and all political campaign contributions from corporations and PACs are eliminated, that the outrageously wealthy would still always have the advantage of opening up their own fat wallet and buying an election. Again, the statistic is shocking: 94% of the time, whoever spends the most money, wins. The bottom line is, if someone has a large pile of personal money at their disposal, they could buy elections – and we must not allow that.

The Reset Button will eliminate all non-public monies from elections. This is an amazing turn of events in the history of elected office in the United States, which has always gone to the wealthy and to those whom “play ball” with the wealthy, and thus get their support. For the first time in the history of the United States, any eligible US citizen actually could become an elected official – regardless of what socioeconomic situation that individual happens to be in.

**The Reset Button Election Reform makes all elections strictly publicly funded, eliminating all private funding, including funding from the candidates themselves.**

7. **Endorsements**

(“President Annette Smith today announced her endorsement of John Jones to be the next president of the United States.” or “The New York Times today announced its endorsement of John Smith for president.” or “The Catholic Church today announced its endorsement of Jane Smith for president.” or “George Soros announced today his endorsement of Pat Taylor for state senator.”)

There is a strong psychological advantage in having a celebrity or spokesperson for an organization (for example, an elected official, currently in office) endorsing or opposing (usually, 'badmouthing') any particular candidate for office. So, current office holders will need to be temporarily barred from commenting on particular individuals in the field of candidates for office, unless they have knowledge that needs to be expressed in the public vetting portion of candidates (in which allegations of unfitness for office are handled privately, and kept private unless proven to be true.)

In the United States judicial system, people are routinely hit with (temporary or even permanent) “gag orders”, ostensibly to prevent certain information from affecting the outcome of a trial or for protecting someone. This rule, prohibiting public commenting on candidates, is in effect, a temporary gag order. The timetable outlined in the Election Reform Act has candidate names announced only 150 days before an election. That removes the protracted drama, the circus, that US politics has become, and also means this temporary gag order against endorsements or announced opposition would be a short time-frame, and not a hardship.

The exact wording of the subsection in the Election Reform Act states:

Sub-Section 10D: Current and former elected and appointed officials, as well as any other entity, (individual, charity, foundation, religious or secular group, collective, union, business, corporate entity, etc. – foreign or domestic) may not announce, make public, or 'leak', an endorsement for or announce opposition to any candidate.

So, this also prevents existing groups (such as a particular Church, or a particular Union) from wielding too much influence. It also prevents groups from forming for the purpose of subverting the intent to “level the playing field” for candidates. It is unfortunate that people need to be presented with a financial disincentive to illegal behavior, but the Election Reform Act has a provision calling for fines for this election tampering behavior, and in the case of affluent groups or affluent individuals arrogantly trying to brush any minor financial penalties aside, the fines can get quite large.
This is a very important pathway for the Financial Elite and Power Elite, or any large powerful group, to control elections, and is as critical a door to keep closed as any other identified here. Otherwise, in a simple, innocent-sounding one-liner, well known organizations or affluent individuals could easily sway an election. It is also important to point out that this would eliminate methods such as telephone “push polling” – even if done by individual citizens without being compensated.

*The Election Reform Act in The Reset Button would eliminate political endorsements.*

### 8. Election Rigging

After quite a number of allegations of fraud, using electronic/computerized voting machines and perhaps even more importantly, electronic/computerized vote *tabulation* machines, Princeton University researchers published information about extremely serious vulnerabilities in electronic voting machines⁶. Those still holding onto disbelief regarding whether voting machines were capable of fraud and/or were actually being used to ‘flip the vote’ in any elections had a bomb dropped in their lap when a highly articulate computer programmer, Clint Curtis⁷, testified in Congress, under oath, before members of the House Judiciary Committee, that he was asked to write software to flip the vote in voting machines. The request (allegedly) came directly from Congressman Tom Feeney. Clint Curtis not only testified that it was possible, he testified that it could be done undetectably.

What this means is that whoever holds the keys to the voting machines, and the vote tabulation machines, and electronic scanners, can select the winner.

Thus the need to fall-back to paper ballots and hand tabulation of votes (until such time that a completely hacker-proof electronic system, with a full paper trail, can be implemented.) The Election Reform Act mandates these changes.

*The Election Reform Act in The Reset Button would mandate paper ballots, hand counted with transparency, and hand tabulated with transparency.*

### 9. Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) control over elections:

We have seen two SCOTUS cases relatively recently that show an astounding arrogance on the part of the SCOTUS justices to interfere with elections and subvert citizens' rights in elections: The debacle in 2000 where the SCOTUS stopped a lawful recount of votes in the presidential election, and the 2010 Citizens United case where they declared corporations as persons, and that these 'corporate persons' could donate all the money they want in elections (and call it “free speech.”)

We can clean-out Congress, filling all seats with people of integrity, change election laws to be fair and honest... but if the justices of the SCOTUS retain their unconstitutional status as lifetime appointments, we citizens will continue to be trumped by their will. They are all political appointees, highly charged political appointees, and SCOTUS appointments have been considered to be the most important decisions that a sitting president can make while in office.

In addition to the electoral misconduct:

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If appointing Federal Judges is, in effect, a “get-out-of-jail-free” card for the Financial Elite and Power Elite that selected, sponsored, and maneuvered them into position, then the hand-picked SCOTUS justice is a solid platinum, hand-engraved, get-out-of-jail-free card for the Financial Elite and Power Elite.

Luckily for us citizens, SCOTUS justices and US federal judges do not really have lifetime appointments – it is a politically motivated, deliberate misinterpretation of the only words in the US Constitution regarding term length of a SCOTUS justice, “...in times of good behaviour...”

“...in times of good behaviour...” most certainly does not say “lifetime appointment” (akin to monarchy.) The framers of the US Constitution fought passionately against monarchy.

That misinterpretation is dealt with in Section 3 of the Election Reform Amendment outlined here in The Reset Button document. The Election Reform Amendment also cleans-up the stinky pile left by SCOTUS in 2010, and strikes down corporate personhood.

We cannot mandate in advance the decisions of any future Supreme Court in any election matters, but we can remove the partisan, corporate-agenda-aligned nature, and Elite-selected reality of appointment to these positions. We the people, not corporate-aligned political parties, can control who (temporarily) holds the 9 seats of that high bench – and make those positions into 4-year term positions, also removing their incumbency issues. Election Reform of the Reset Button does exactly that.

*The Reset Button Election Reform removes the mechanism used for partisan embedding of Supreme Court justices and Federal judges.*
What is this document?

The Reset Button document is an urgent and immediate call to action to all of the citizens of the United States of America, and a call for support from all citizens around the world. This document redefines the role of the American people in self-governance. This document creates a movement which demands specific changes within the structure of the United States electoral system, to put governance of the United States into the hands of the people of the United States.

The Reset Button is true, comprehensive election reform that transforms the electoral system, simultaneously removing all of the mechanisms of electoral control by the Power Elite and Financial Elite. The Reset Button puts the sovereignty over and control of elections into the hands of the citizen electorate – for the first time in the history of the United States. The Reset Button demands the creation of one US Constitutional amendment – Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment), and one law – the Election Reform Act – in order for the citizens of the United States to finally take the control of elections and governance away from the Financial Elite and Power Elite (corporations, international banks, oligarchs, and special interests.) This will mean that ordinary US citizens will be elected to represent US citizens, and that We the People will finally achieve a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

There are numerous, huge issues from war to energy, from health to economics that US citizens must no longer allow corporatists, bankers, and militarists to control. We the People need to control those and all other issues that form the domestic and foreign policy of the United States. Once this critical first step – Election Reform – is accomplished, then, ordinary citizens, not beholden to multinational corporations and international banks, can deal with these issues from a citizen-centric perspective.

A mandatory Position Paper from each candidate defining their position on all of the issues covered in the Candidate Position Issues section of The Reset Button guarantees that voters will know – in advance – what the true positions of candidates are, on over two dozen of the most important issues.

The Candidate Position Issues section of The Reset Button outlines potential major changes in governance and policy, to steer the United States to a course of integrity and away from collusion and corruption, to real peace and away from militaristic and predatory behavior, to citizen-centric and eco-centric policy and away from corporate-centric policy, to sovereignty over and control of healthful food, air, water, and healthcare, to a world-changing embracing of non-polluting energy technologies and the accompanying paradigm shift from scarcity to abundance, to a blended ideology of social democracy for our needs and restrained capitalism for our desires beyond our needs, to social, economic, and environmental harmony, benevolence, and justice for all.

The citizens of the United States hereby issue a directive to the joint houses of the US Congress: the immediate ratification of Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) and the passage of the Election Reform Act – as contained within this document.

Until this directive of the citizens of the United States is met, in full, this document calls for

1. a General Strike by all US citizens (a “stay-at-home” strike),
2. a full boycott of all large corporations,
3. removal of all money from all national and international banks,
4. divestment of all funds in the stock market.

When the Reset Button document was first released in early July 2011, it additionally called for demonstrations in all 50 State capitols. Over the course of events in the past several years, the reaction of the
US federal government and the security-state forces, and the current feeling in the air that the security-state forces may now use massive “agents provocateur” to falsely brand peaceful demonstrators as violent, create turmoil and panic (false flag), resulting in violence against peaceful protesters and a mass sweep and detention of dissidents...

...wisdom now dictates:

Stay at home. Stay in your own communities. Switch tactics from shouting at the deaf Financial Elite and their agents and mercenaries, and instead connect with local community members to directly spread the word of the General Strike and Boycott. Have block parties, celebrate a change in progress – along with a final chance to awaken some that have been reluctant to wake up. The mercenary forces of the Department of Homeland Security have just ordered 1.6 billion hollow-point bullets. Not rubber bullets, deadly hollow-point bullets for our domestic bully security force. That signals a huge change that we citizens would be really ignorant to ignore. Clearly, they are prepared for conflict in the streets, and police and even troops are being “programmed” to overreact and crush dissent. Clearly, they CANNOT prepare for, or do anything to stop, a stay-at-home General Strike and citizens connecting at the community level. They have no defense against that powerful non-violent action. There is none.

The Bill of Rights, Amendment I of the US Constitution could not be more clear that the citizens of the United States have the right to peaceably assemble, and to 'petition for a redress of grievances' – which is exactly what The Reset Button is doing. These rights were obviously first and foremost in the minds of the founding fathers, redressing their errors and omissions from the original articles of the Constitution, and who then penned this as the very first amendment to the US Constitution:

> Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Yes, our constitutional rights are being denied, by taking away our right to peacefully assemble and yell a few more “I'm mad as hell...! phrases at them, but our intent is to win a war, not a battle. We will renew the spirit of our rights after we win the war with the Financial Elite and Power Elite, the international bankers and their corporate empires, the mercenary politicians owned by them. A nationwide stay-at-home General Strike with millions of participants that stops the gears in their corporations from turning will win the war. They have no defense against it. There is no defense against it.

Our demands – ratification of Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) and the passage of the Election Reform Act – will be met, and we will have won the war against the Financial Elite and Power Elite.

This call to action is not clandestine or subversive, is nether an insurrection or revolution, and involves no sedition or treason; just the opposite is true: this document openly demands an end to the current subversion of the US Constitution by corrupt members of all three branches of US government, demands an end to acts of treasonous collusion by elected and appointed officials of the US government with national and international corporate and banking entities, and demands a key constitutional amendment and law passage to begin the pathway to a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

The Reset Button document is written in plain English that every adult US citizen should be able to read and comprehend. The Reset Button document could be the catalyst and blueprint for the most significant social change in the history of the United States – since 1776. The outcome will depend entirely on the exercise of free will by the unified voice of the majority of the citizens of the United States – in the face of extreme opposition by the current power control structure. If we are cowards that refuse to go on General Strike,
content to be slaves of the Financial Elite and Power Elite, nothing will change. But if we, the citizens of the United States rise up en masse and refuse to be slaves to the Financial Elite and Power Elite, we will win. We will win our freedom and our sovereignty and will become self-governing.

Citizen Action List Explained

The call for specific action by US citizens, until the ratification of Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) and the passage of the Election Reform Act, explained and annotated. Until this directive of the citizens of the United States is met, in full, this document calls for

1. General Strike by all US citizens (a 'stay-at-home strike'.)

First, we stop and recognize that the Elite have subverted democracy and have taken over the US government. It would be ignorant of us to take the fight to the politicians – we need to take the fight to the people who control the politicians: the Elite. The Elite operate through their corporations, banks, and privately held companies. We the People have the power to shut them down, and force them to order the politicians (that they control) to pass the law and amendment that we demand, and that will transform the electoral paradigm.

The effectiveness of a General Strike is not in picketing, bullhorn speeches, crowd chants, or even a public presence. The effectiveness of a General Strike is not in presence but rather in absence – the absence of the workforce, stopping or slowing the work-flow, eroding or stopping the profitability (or even the viability) of the corporation. If you are a union member that has strict rules or strike behavior (such as having to take turns picketing on-site), then follow your union's rules while you ask your union representative to relax the rules, for this General Strike. If you belong to a union that refuses to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime, critical, General Strike, quit or defy your union and quickly organize another union with other workers who have also just quit that union. There are some unions that are fully compromised, and that have corporate-owned puppets in place. You will know who they are very quickly. These union leaders who actually work for the Financial Elite and Power Elite must NOT be allowed to make the decisions for the union members!

We all know that the unemployment rate is high, and thus the temptation of unemployed workers to accept positions left vacant by striking workers will be great – but, remember that this is a once-in-a-lifetime, critical, General Strike to gain control of governance and take it away from the Financial Elite and Power Elite. For all US citizens, the long-term goal far outweighs short-term employment. Workers who accept positions during the General Strike – taking jobs of striking workers – will forever be seen as betrayal of your co-workers, betrayal of the citizens of the US, betrayal of the goal of citizen sovereignty outlined by The Reset Button document and movement, and as “capitulating with the enemy of the people.” If the General Strike is massive enough, it will be successful very quickly; if the General Strike is moderate in scope, it may take months to be successful. But it will be successful! A massive general strike is the most powerful action, by far, that US citizens can do to create a government of the people, by the people and for the people! Remember to reach-out to anyone and everyone who needs help, and make sure no one goes hungry during the strike.

If the corporate shutdown requires steps beyond a stay-at-home general strike, We the People may be compelled to use our vehicles to turn the roads surrounding corporate facilities into parking lots, to prevent the movement of raw or finished goods and service-sector personnel.

2. Full boycott of all large corporations

Corporations vary in their level and degree of desire and ability to control the US government, and in
their level and degree of greed-based sociopathic behavior and the amount of direct harm to citizens and to our environment — but, for the purpose of attaining the goals of The Reset Button, we will view all major corporations (national and multinational) as critical targets of a full boycott. All of these corporations form the tip of the financial pyramid, and an intricate web of control over the US government and its citizens.

Make no mistake, the major corporations, (along with privately held major banks and militarists), now have complete control over the US government and have eroded and dissolved the sovereignty of citizens — as the corporate entities and major banks have gained sovereignty over US citizens. In their present form, and within the present “untamed/unrestricted” structure, they are most certainly the enemy of the citizens of the US. These major corporations, through campaign donations (which should be called corporate sponsorships) and through lobbying (which should be called bribery and collusion), completely control the careers of all politicians — not a single politician currently in office could have come to power without the aiding and abetting of these corporations (if not directly, then through political party purse strings.) To influence the current politicians, we must influence the major corporations that “own” them.

Find a listing of the largest 100 corporations in the US near the end of The Reset Button document, or find a listing of the largest 500 corporations in the US online at www.ResetButtonMovement.org/RBActionItems.php

As an example, we know that Walmart, (one of the largest corporations in the US and the largest retailer in the world), offers cheap (mostly imported) stuff, and it may be tempting to try to save a few pennies or dollars by shopping there — but don’t! Refuse to do any business with them until the ratification of Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) and the passage of the Election Reform Act occurs. We need to make the strongest use of boycott wherever we are able to readily do so. It may require some sacrifice on our part, because we have allowed these corporations to become part of our lives — but we can do it, we can boycott them for as many months as it takes.

Many of the major corporations will be obvious and easy to target with a full boycott — simply refuse to do any business with them until the ratification of Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) and the passage of the Election Reform Act occurs. Other corporations may require a bit of sleuthing to figure out who their subsidiaries are, so that their subsidiaries can be boycotted as well. Still other corporations represent all of the major players in an industry, and there is no way to effectively completely boycott them all — the oil corporate giants are a good example. Our only boycott tool in a case like this will be to use as little of the goods or service as possible, until the ratification of Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) and the passage of the Election Reform Act occurs. Finally, there will be some corporations on the list that deal only with other corporations or only with the US government (such as some of the “defense contractor” corporations), and we may not be able to affect them significantly with boycott strategies. We will deal with them in the stock market divestment, and further in the Candidate Position Issues section of The Reset Button movement.

3. Removal of all money from all national and international banks.
This does not advocate or imply inciting a “bank run” (attempting to have everyone simultaneously walk out of the banks with all of their money, in physical cash or dollar bills) — in fact, a bank run is impossible anyway, because the vast majority of “money” is not printed as dollar bills but rather is simply a notation in a computer accounting program. Removal of all money from all national and international banks implies moving all of your money from these large, predatory banks into small,
locally owned banks and locally owned savings and loans institutions. Be sure to check to see who owns a local bank or S&L before depositing your money there – make sure you are actually moving it away from the hands of the national and international bankers. Because the “perfect economic storm” – created deliberately by the Financial Elite – appears to be imminent, it is wise to put at least some of your paper money into goods (such as organic seeds, tools, supplies), land (if you can pay for it in full), and a monetary form that guards against hyperinflation of “paper” money (silver, maybe gold.)

4. Divestment of all funds in the stock market.
We have all heard of “blood diamonds”, and need to think in terms of the reality that supporting these corrupt major corporations, by owning their stocks, is exactly the same thing as owning blood diamonds. There may be a very few exceptions to this strategy, and so retaining stock in some of the truly “green” (not “green-washed”) corporations with fair trade policies, fair worker compensation, and less severe disparity between the highest and lowest paid workers would be prudent – but frankly, you will almost certainly not find a single corporation that fits that description among the largest 500 corporations in the stock market. Sell all of your stocks, your ‘blood diamonds', and wash your hands. Note that the stock market appears ready to at least “correct” (go way down) and many non-mainstream economists say it is about to crash.

Don't just sell some stocks and buy others. We need to impact the entire stock market and its infrastructure. If you want to re-purchase stocks, (some time in the future, after identifying honorable businesses), wait until after the ratification of Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) and the passage of the Election Reform Act. Move all of your money out, and don't put a dime back in until the amendment and law take effect. Note also that the Candidate Position Issues section of The Reset Button will recommend to legislate that “items of need” to no longer be allowed to be traded as commodities in the stock market, and some “financial instruments” may no longer even exist. So, for example, don't reinvest in wheat futures or fossil energy companies or options on futures contracts or any form of derivatives.

(a few things that everyone can do)

- Make The Reset Button movement go viral. This is critical! Paste a link with a brief, urgent, explanation in your own words – on your website, your blog, and on all forums and social networking sites that you visit. Email a copy of The Reset Button document as an attachment, or send a link to every single person in your email list. Remember, each and every supporter is equally leading The Reset Button movement. It is up to you (to each of us) to spread the word. (Link to www.ResetButtonMovement.org)
- Make digital copies of The Reset Button document onto CD ROM disks and give them out.
- Make printed copies, and distribute them to friends and family members that are not likely to use a computer themselves to print or read online.
- Make and wear Reset Button T-shirts. (Download free graphics at www.ResetButtonMovement.org/RBDDownload.php)
- Make signs and put them on your car, house, yard... “I Support The Reset Button!” or “Press The Reset Button!” or “Game Over. Hit The Reset Button!” or some creative variation on the theme. (Download free graphics at the link shown above)
- Have a Reset Button-themed block party, and invite all of your neighbors. Talk, share, find your common ground, shake hands, look each other in the eye, share a meal, assure and comfort one another, pledge to help each other weather the transition to self-governance.
- Print up a few dozen postcard-sized pieces of paper, write just a few words on them that will make someone curious, include a link to www.ResetButtonMovement.org, and hand them out.
- Remember, there is no “organization” (just the citizens of the US), no petition to sign, no signatures to collect, no money to donate. This movement will require your effort, and your time, and your energy, and your passion. (Signatures at The Reset Button website should be considered as signing a declaration, not as signing a petition.)
- Don't quit! Keep your energy high, and be prepared to expend time and energy. This will be historic, and you don't want to tell your grandchildren you were sitting on the couch watching TV while the rest of your countrymen were tirelessly working for your freedom.
- Sing, dance, and laugh! Refuse to allow the artificial fear generated by the Elite and their minions in government and media to affect you. **Fear is their most effective weapon.**

6. Get Metaphysical
If you believe in or understand metaphysical energy, use it to support The Reset Button movement. This would include prayer, focused intent, and meditation. Even if you think prayer, focused intent, and meditation are superstitious mumbo-jumbo, that's OK, please just keep a positive attitude about The Reset Button concept, and express your feeling that The Reset Button will be successful. Express your enthusiasm for and support of The Reset Button to everyone you know, and everyone you meet – and if they ask, “Can this really work?” tell them, “Yes, it will work, if we all work together!”

7. Make Some Official Noise
Phone and write and email your Senators and Congresspersons. It sounds lame, and actually it usually is lame, but it is actually very important in this case to make a big noise at the office of your current Senators and Representatives, so they will know the scope of citizen support. The impact of the General Strike will be immediate and obvious (especially if everyone sitting on the fence makes the decision to “go for it” and strike, once-in-a-lifetime, for this historic opportunity.) The impact of shifting money from the big banks to the little banks will be noticeable, but may be ignored or under-reported by mainstream news; the stock divestment might take a few weeks to make an impact because it is unfamiliar territory and many will have to rely on a stock broker.

We need the Senators and Representatives to immediately have no doubt that there is a firestorm of support for The Reset Button. Light up their phones, fill up their snail and email boxes. (Do this even if you cannot do much else.) Repeat frequently! (at least once a day, every day, until Election Reform goals are accomplished) We citizens did not hire them and they do not answer to us, so our calls and emails and letters to them will not (by itself) create the change. The change will occur when the corporations (the people that actually hired the Senators and Representatives) order the Senators and Representatives to pass the law and ratify the amendment. They will do this or lose their corporate empires. Here is the web address to find out how to contact your Senators and Representatives: [http://www.contactingthecongress.org/](http://www.contactingthecongress.org/)

8. Be Prepared to Peacefully Protest in the Capital City of Your State
(This idea has been eliminated from The Reset Button Movement.) Due to the passage of H.R. 347, the “Anti-Protest Trespass Bill”, it would be foolish for the citizens of the US to protest on public grounds. This is the desperate US government preparing for mass arrests of protesters. Besides, as has been stated in several other places in this document, all of our attention should now be focused on unifying US citizens against a common enemy that has declared war against us: international bankers, and the mega-corporations that they control. We are not at war with the police or the military – they are, in fact, our brothers and sisters, and we ask them to join us and help to defend us against the international bankers and mega corporations and their minions. We no longer need to even raise our voices to the banks and corporations.)
Do gather on private property to communicate with your neighbors and community. No more protest is really necessary. Now, just spend your energy uniting with community members, explaining the urgency of the situation, the plan, and the strategy. Do not spread fear! Evil people feed on fear, and fearful people are easily manipulated. This “bottom-up” approach, individuals in communities reaching out to one another, rekindling and strengthening the bonds of community, recognizing community members as allies, is one of the most positive and powerful gifts from the Occupy Movement.

As the General Strike goes on, it will become more and more obvious that the power of our unity is stronger than the divisive forces that the Financial Elite and Power Elite and their stooges can muster. Government officials will see that they have lost legitimacy, and will realize that how they will be dealt with, what consequences they face, and how they will be remembered depends on whether they assist in the creation of a fair election system and gracefully step aside, or if they fight a battle that they cannot win, to try to remain in power.

The unified citizens of the United States are asked to do as many of the items on the Citizen Action List as possible – every US citizen who wants real elections, citizen self-governance, and true democratic rule must be compelled to do as much as possible to force the current legislators to enact this true election reform, the critical steppingstone to true self-governance. The Reset Button enables a pathway towards the reform items listed in the Candidate Position Issues section. Divided, we stand no chance of achieving self-governance; united, we will achieve self-governance.

Calling for Support from non-US Citizens

We are also calling for support from our brothers and sisters around the world. To our globe-mates: Please offer your enthusiastic support of The Reset Button and the underlying concept and principles. If the corporate mass media is ordered to ignore, to purposely under-report, or to distort the truth about The Reset Button movement, please make your voices heard! With HR 347 and the NDAA in force, we need to know that “the whole world is watching” and standing with the citizens of the United States in solidarity.

The Reset Button document addresses the specifics of the US system, and so cannot be an exact template for any other country's citizens – but, the concept can be used by anyone. The same global cabal of international bankers, multinational corporations, and secret societies oppresses all of the citizens in the world, and your country is no exception. We urge you to quickly create and implement a Reset Button movement within your own country, writing a document that specifically addresses the legal pathway to your own country's sovereignty, to your own individual sovereignty, and to a system of self-governance. And, we will support you!

Why The Reset Button Will Succeed

“Divide and conquer!” had been a tactic used by the controllers of society against the people of the society for thousands of years, and is just as effective today as ever. There are tens of millions, perhaps hundreds of millions of US citizens that recognize that there are major problems that need to be addressed. People with good hearts, full of passion and compassion, try to attack and solve some of the problems. Some of these passionate, compassionate people attempt to juggle many issues at once, and divide their time between several issues that they feel are most critical. Some of these passionate, compassionate people attempt to pick
one major issue, such as ending wars, protecting the environment, trying to get true health care reform, trying
to stop the genetically modified food takeover, reducing the size of the government, protecting worker's
rights, changing the education system, … and the list goes on and on … and they dedicate their time, money,
and efforts to the problem they feel most strongly about. The controllers of our society don't need to divide
us; we have divided ourselves.

We now know that dividing our energies does not work, so we regroup and recognize that none of the major
problems will ever be solved until we succeed in gaining sovereignty and self-governance. With clarity, we
realize that Election Reform of The Reset Button – the immediate ratification of Amendment XXVIII
(Election Reform Amendment) and the passage of the Election Reform Act – is the only thing that will
succeed in gaining citizen sovereignty and self-governance. It will succeed by our united efforts, we will
have a clean slate, and then we can move on to all of the other issues listed in the Candidate Position Issues
section of The Reset Button, and beyond.

Step #1 is getting this document into millions of people's hands. Millions of people need to read these words.
Millions of people have to decide to unite behind the goal of actually creating a government of the people.
Millions of people need to understand the 9 ways that the Elite control the electoral paradigm, so that they
will understand that only this comprehensive approach will work. Unless that first step is accomplished,
there will never be enough people united to make The Reset Button strategy work. Share this document with
at least 10 other people, and ask them to do the same.

Who will oppose The Reset Button?

As it gains momentum, opposition to The Reset Button will come from the individuals and cartels that have
'gamed the system' and who currently control the United States government, control all major financial
institutions, control our nation's food supply, control our nation's energy supply, and control our nation's
security. The international banking cartel including the Federal Reserve bankers, the major players on Wall
Street, the fossil fuel cartel, agri-biz giants including the corporations who have replaced food with
genetically modified plants and food animals, “main-stream” media corporations, the “military industrial
complex” (the “defense” industry), current corrupt politicians and compromised and corrupt political
organizations, Supreme Court justices and others who believe they are in lifetime appointed positions, and
even the semi-hidden political wing of some organized religions will all bring the might of their opposition
to The Reset Button, and – if necessary - will fully employ their control over all forms of media and the help
of US intelligence agency know-how with psychological operations (psy-ops) to attempt to silence the voices
and subvert the will of the people – the citizens of the United States.

Do not be surprised to see a few organizations that pass themselves off as “progressive” to dismiss The Reset
Button – some of them are fully infiltrated and compromised, and some others will hold stubbornly to the
notion that things are really not all that bad, and that simply electing a few honorable Democrats or
Republicans or Libertarians or Green Party or Tea Party or Socialist Party candidates into office is all that is
needed. Some folks may feel that The Reset Button does not embrace enough of their ideals, and may drag
their feet or stand their ground – dividing themselves from those who embrace The Reset Button as the most
powerful social movement to self-governance ever to take place in the US.

There will be some very noisy people who will not be who they say they are. It will become apparent who
they really work for. They need to be exposed.

There will be some people frozen with fear, unable to envision sovereignty and self-governance, and will be
frozen in fear of the unknown, substituting their indecision for decision. They need their hands held.
As The Reset Button movement gains momentum, expect a psychological battle of half-truths and lies, divisive strategies, from the finest pundits, news anchors, public relations spokespersons, political spokespersons, and politicians that money can buy – far in excess of anything seen in the prior COINTELPRO operations that infiltrated, discredited, disrupted, and destroyed legal organizations that were in opposition to the prevailing political power structure. Our great advantage is that The Reset Button has no organization and no leaders, so their tried-and-tested-true methods of destroying organizations from within and of compromising leaders cannot happen. With a copy of The Reset Button document in hand, each of us possesses 100% of the information to co-lead the movement to true self-governance and true freedom.

There is no individual leader of The Reset Button Movement. I am not the leader; we are all co-leaders. However, knowing that if I even remain in a catalyst role in the Reset Button Movement, that it could put some loved ones at risk, as of the release of The Reset Button document, rev. 3.0, I have reached the end of any role beyond “participant.” This is your movement, your document, your plan, your strategy, and your goal now. Take it and run with it, or it will wither and die. I stand beside you. Decide as a group of passionate citizens if you want a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Decide as a group whether there is enough support (remember, it is 10%) to move ahead with the actions described in The Reset Button document. This is the only comprehensive plan – the only plan that even has a chance.

Unable to attack an organization, and unable to stop a movement where every single person is a leader, they will attack (and/or attempt to strategically ignore) The Reset Button Movement. We will meet their lies with truth; meet their divisiveness with unity; meet their blackout with viral sharing; meet their hatred with love. The citizens of the United States, we the people, will succeed.

**Collusion Defined**

The vast majority of the corruption, conspiracy, and crimes committed by the United States government involve collusion\(^8\):

**collu:son**  \(\text{kə-ˈlú-zhən}\)  noun

Definition of COLLUSION

: *secret agreement or cooperation especially for an illegal or deceitful purpose*

Collusion between the US government with national and international corporate and banking entities has become so rampant, so widespread, so common, it has become the status quo, shrugged off as “the way the system works.” Collusion is the major disease that has eaten away at the heart and nearly devoured the soul of the United States. Decades of collusion finds us in a complex web of corruption, interwoven with subversion of democracy, and resulting in rapidly expanding tyranny.

Problems that are deliberately interwoven with complexity require a relatively complex, comprehensive solution. The complexity of the problems created over the last century within the US government have been nurtured and sustained by the very few at the top of the financial and corporate pyramid who have benefited, and these problems have metastasized into the complex web of collusion of our current, fully compromised, US government. The problems are complex; there is no simple solution. However, there is an overall solution: simple solutions to individual segments of the problem, simultaneously enacted – and that is the core of this document. Any attempt at solving this complex cluster of problems in linear steps will fail, because the complexity of the collusion purposely forms a sort of self-healing fail-safe to protect the network

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\(^8\) Collusion Venn Diagrams [http://www.activistpost.com/2012/04/18-venn-diagrams-showing-how-corrupted.html](http://www.activistpost.com/2012/04/18-venn-diagrams-showing-how-corrupted.html)
of collusion. Only by simultaneously addressing all of the issues that continue to sustain the problems can we solve the overall problem.

Only by simultaneously unwinding all the threads of collusion can we arrive at a healthy and benevolent nation – that is the goal of the Candidate Position Issues section of The Reset Button. However, to unwind the major threads of collusion, we the people need to be in a position of legislative power, and to get there, we need to quickly and immediately reconfigure the election process, clean-out the entrenched, compromised, controlled, and corrupt judiciary, legislators, executives, and appointees. Election Reform of The Reset Button addresses this. We must simultaneously sweep out all elected and appointed officials, (thank those few who have tried to serve our country honorably), to allow the ordinary citizens of the United States to author our future.

**Rule by Rules, Not by Rulers**

The Reset Button is the recognition that the voice of aristocracy is not the voice “of the people.” Currently, every candidate for high office either needs to be a millionaire, or, (even worse) to be financially supported by millionaires, multimillionaires, or billionaires. This is the voice of aristocracy, of the well-heeled and well-connected, and these elected officials are certain to be fully beholden to their sponsors once inserted into positions of power. Even more outlandish is the fact that these individuals are pre-selected by aristocracy, based on celebrity characteristics and willingness to reciprocate favors with their financial sponsors. Corruption is guaranteed; it is impossible in the current system to get away from corruption. We the people have allowed these financially sponsored celebrities to act as our rulers, and they have served aristocracy well.

We don't need “rulers”; we need wise, just, and fair rules. We have allowed ourselves to become led by rulers, rather than being led by the rule of law. We have allowed ourselves to be herded into “selecting”, (from a small, pre-selected group), rulers in the guise of representatives. We have allowed this to become “normal” for picking rulers for two of the three branches of government – not because they represent a cross section of American citizens, but based on how well-connected they are, and how much financial backing they have. Then, we have allowed these rulers to appoint the ruling officials of the third branch of government – the judges.

In a jury trial, even a trial for a capital crime such as murder, we rely upon the average citizen, not millionaires or celebrities, to act as jurors. We do this because we have faith and trust in the average citizen to step-up to the task, to be fair and impartial, and because there is a coherent set of rules in place for the juror's actions. With wise and fair and just rules in place, elected officials will truly become 'public servants' rather than rulers who are in turn sponsored by and beholden to oligarchs and aristocracy – the “Ruling Elite.” With average citizens occupying elected offices, free from the entanglements of campaign donors, sponsoring corporations, lobbyists, and political parties, the voice of the people will finally be represented in elected office. And, these non-corrupt, independent, and unobstructed individuals will be able to pool their intellects to write new laws that are fair and just for all, to unravel and rewrite existing unfair laws, and to eliminate an immense number of laws (that only serve the Elite and/or make the entire legal system incomprehensible to most of us.)

As an additional check and balance, we also need a mechanism to quickly remove elected officials from office when the vast majority of the electorate deems that they are not serving the will of the people.

The longer someone holds an elected or appointed position, the more power they acquire, the more networked with “insiders” they become, and with their own position of power they become more likely to
offer and accept favors and backroom deals. “Tit for tat.” “You scratch my back; I'll scratch yours.” Deal-making has become the norm for legislators, and collusion (backroom deals between legislators and corporate lobbyists) has basically resulted in corporate control over the entire legislative process, from the federal level (Congress) through state legislatures, and into local legislatures. Incumbency fosters cronyism and collusion. We have grown so used to the idea that this is “business as usual” and “the way things are done in Washington”, that we forget to stop and recognize that it is completely unfair, unjust, immoral, and in many cases totally illegal. We also fail to recognize that we don't have to allow this behavior and its consequences. A single term in office for any elected or appointed position, plus a complete refreshing of every elected and appointed position each election cycle is the answer at the front end, and outlawing the lobbying process is the answer at the back end.

Fair, honest, impartial, and wise judges are one critical leg of the tripod (legislative, executive, and judicial branches) for the stability of the US government. The authors of the US Constitution were vague in defining the length of term for judges, evidently believing that all judges would faithfully remain loyal to the spirit of the Constitution, and would remain impartial and non-partisan. The authors failed to envision that the phrase “good behavior” would be a weak guideline to determine the ending date of service. Article III, Section 1 of the US Constitution states, “The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour”, but failed to specify a specific length of time for the term. Judges, especially justices in the Supreme Court, have become highly politically biased and have aided and abetted in practices of collusion between the US government and corporate and banking industries that could only be considered as 'good behavior' by those industries, and to the great detriment of the people of the United States. Judges have become like monarchs – ruling until death. Even worse, judges have become like monarchs aligned with the world's most powerful business interests – national and international – and have become completely disjointed from alignment with the citizens of the United States. The Supreme Court case, “Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission”, giving unbridled power to corporations – including foreign board members and shareholders – to buy US elections, is the final straw. The solution is to elect rather than to appoint judges, to define their length of service as the same 4-year maximum as any other elected official, and to provide a clear pathway for the citizen electorate to remove judges from office when it becomes necessary.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The two enemies of the people are criminals and government, so let us tie the second down with the chains of the Constitution so the second will not become the legalized version of the first." We need to strengthen to Constitution, because our government has indeed become criminal in behavior.

**The Reset Button, Election Reform**

**Election Reform**

Election Reform within The Reset Button calls for one US Constitutional amendment – Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) – to be ratified immediately, and one law – the Election Reform Act – to be passed immediately, in order for the citizens of the United States to gain electoral control and to become the representative voice in the government of the United States of America. True and comprehensive Election Reform is the goal of of The Reset Button.

**Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment)**

**Election Reform Act**
The Reset Button Election Reform: True Election Reform

Background:
Abraham Lincoln's words of hope and dedication ring as powerfully today as when he spoke the Gettysburg Address, and declared that “...a government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the Earth.” Unfortunately, he was wrong – if that noble idea ever existed, it has perished. There is no government of the people, by the people, for the people. There is only a government of the Elite, by the Elite, for the Elite. The goal of The Reset Button Movement is to change that.

The current mechanism for selecting candidates and electing officials guarantees that the candidates will not be 'of the people', but instead they will either be millionaires or will be sponsored by millionaires or even billionaires, will have accepted the agenda of the Financial Elite and Power Elite, and must possess some celebrity attributes. This gang of Elite-selected individuals is certainly not a representative sample “of the people.” In the current system, it is impossible to restrain influence by large financial backers, all the way from the initial process of pre-selecting candidates to the final counting of votes. We the people must not allow the affluent and those backed by affluence and power to have this completely unfair advantage, resulting in an unstoppable joyride to elected positions. Instead of deep pocket sponsorship and celebrity attributes, the attributes that our nation, our states, and our municipalities should strive for in elected officials should be: honesty in all affairs, dedication to serve the people, trustworthiness, wisdom, vision, fearlessness, compassion, and love.

An entirely new system of elections must be implemented, to negate the control of elections by rich individuals, corporations, and foreign governments. Political parties must be eliminated, as they serve to herd or funnel voters into forced decisions and “lesser of two evils” mindset, as well as being easily manipulated by oligarchs to pre-select and present only two candidates that will both protect oligarchical rule.

To this end, and in this spirit, to negate the control of elections by rich individuals, corporations, and foreign governments we must embrace an entirely new system of inclusiveness, rather than of exclusiveness.

Currently, the prime factors that keep races for elected seats from being simultaneously attempted by a large number of candidates is financial backing and endorsement, or really, the lack thereof. By eliminating endorsements and eliminating the necessity for financial backing beyond a small filing fee, the election process could easily be overrun by excessively large numbers – hundreds or even thousands – of candidates for the same seat. This would make the debate process impossible, and would provide voters with such an overload that they would not be able to assimilate the information.

We need to get the number down to a manageable number, without consuming vast amounts of time (such as a series of primaries.) A completely random conscription of a specific number of candidates, in a jurisdiction, (the way jurors are initially selected), would be fair, but would place the burden of public service on many individuals that have no interest in performing this service. A lottery method of selecting a specific number of initial candidates from the group of those filing to run (individuals willing, able, and eligible) is the only logical choice for consideration that can logistically work, and keep money interests from gaming this new system. This method also underscores the fact that we are evolving the legislative process away from the belief that we require a remarkable skill-set to be a legislator or judge, and towards one where our legislators and judges are true representatives of our citizens.

We reject 'corporate person-hood', corporate contributions to elections (to parties or to candidates.)

We reject all political parties.
We reject gerrymandering, cronyism, and incumbency.

Elimination of gerrymandering will require new district lines to be drawn – based strictly upon census figures and a computer algorithm to minimize any ability for human intervention meddling. This issue will probably not be solved before the election year election cycle, and will be dealt with by Congressional committee after the election cycle. The results of the algorithm will be utilized in all 50 States. For the election year election cycle, the District of Columbia will be to be considered as a district within the State of Maryland. (because there will be no electors and no electoral vote, as the electoral college is being eliminated.) After the election cycle, and before the election cycle, the District of Columbia will be formally dissolved as a corporate entity, and fully subsumed and assimilated into the State of Maryland, and Maryland will be redistricted per the then current redistricting algorithm.

To eliminate cronyism and incumbency, elected and appointed officials will serve only a single term in any one office. (An individual could serve in different offices. For example, a mayor could run for senator; a senator could run for president, but once a person has served in an office, they may never run for that office again.) No appointee may ever occupy the same position again. A single time span of one election cycle – 4 years – will be the maximum amount of time any individual may hold any elected or appointed office – and this includes appointed positions that were formerly lifetime appointments, such as Supreme Court Justices and Federal Judges.

Towards true democracy, and away from oligarchy, we reject all non-public money and outside influence in elections, as well as lobbyists affecting elected officials after elections have been completed.

Towards candidate inclusiveness, we support solely funding campaign spending with public funds (an equal but modest dollar amount – nothing like the corporate political circus we endure now.) Rejecting private funding allows us as a nation for the first time ever to welcome candidates from the entire spectrum of socioeconomic groups, to find “the heart of the people” and embrace true representation of the people, by the people, and for the people. Campaign spending funds will all come from public funds – primarily from candidate filing fees.

Electoral College (formerly used for presidential elections) to be dropped immediately, by a new Constitutional Amendment. Strike down Article Two, Section 1, Clauses 2, 3, and 4 of the US Constitution – dealing with the particulars of the electors in the electoral college. Strike down the 12th amendment to the Constitution – dealing with the way votes are cast by electoral college electors for president and vice president – preserving only the last line adding a qualification for the office of vice-president. Strike down the 23rd amendment to the Constitution – dealing with electors for the District of Columbia. President/vice president to be elected solely on popular vote, as are all other elected offices in the United States.

Strike down the 22nd Amendment, allowing a second presidential term of four years. No person shall serve more than 4 years in any elected or appointed position within any federal, state, or local jurisdiction.

We support unwavering fairness and accountability in voting, with fully audited paper balloting, and (to prevent vote tampering and electronically stolen elections) no electronic or computerized voting machines, or vote tabulation machines, allowed anywhere in the US in the election cycle, and not reintroduced until it can be demonstrated that security measures can prevent electronic election tampering.

As soon as the US can demonstrate computerized voting without a significant potential for election fraud, the election process will include Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) or “ranked voting” or other variants from traditional “first-past-the-post (FPTP) vote counting, to allow each voter the maximum representation for their vote. But, for, we will rely on paper ballots and hand-counting of votes with FPTP being the
All ballots must be counted by hand, and automatically recounted by hand if the margin of winning percentage is 1% or less. Vote Counters and Polling Judges to be conscripted for temporary duty, selected randomly from the population local to each polling place (similar to selecting jurors.) Witnesses to vote counts may include the candidates for office or their (volunteer) representatives if the candidate requests representation at the counting of ballots. All physical ballots to be safely held by the jurisdiction for a minimum of six months past the swearing-in of the elected candidates for office.

We reject citizens with dual (or more) citizenship holding any elected public office or holding any appointed public position, federal, state, and local, and (in cases where these qualifications are not specified in the Constitution), a waiting period of not less than 10 years after becoming a US citizen and/or after renouncing any additional citizenship, to be eligible to run for any qualified office or to accept any public appointment.

To prevent collusion, we reject individuals with corporate or banking ties holding public office, because it is impossible to impartially create laws, adjudicate justice fairly, or have executive oversight while maintaining those established ties. Further, individuals holding public office (elected or appointed) must agree not to enter into corporate or banking roles or have financial dealings with corporations, banking institutions, or stock/bonds/commodities trading, immediately after leaving office – for a period of time that ensures that no 'nest is feathered' while in office. For the {election year} elections, that waiting period shall be five (5) years, and may be reviewed and altered by Congress after {year}, but never to be less than four (4) years.

Candidate Selection, Single (president, governor, mayor, etc):
A new system of selecting candidates, for all 'single-seat' elected positions, in Federal, State, and Local governments:

Candidates must fulfill eligibility requirements for the office sought, and must never have held that office.

180 days before an election:
Candidates must legally file intent to run, and pay a nominal candidate fee ($1000 federal election; $500 state; $100 city and county/parish – TBD by legislature after {year} election cycle, but never to exceed 'nominal')

120 days before the election:
- All legally filed candidates names (on identical tokens) physically put into hopper.
- Candidate Group is selected:
  - Names are selected, randomly, quick checked for eligibility, and the first twenty (20) eligible individuals are secretly listed in numerical order [1 through 10 are initial candidates, 11 through 20 are alternate candidates.]
  - The entire Group of 20 individuals, for public purposes, then becomes known as the Candidate Group.
  - The names of individuals in each Candidate Group (but not sequence numbers) are alphabetized (last, first), and publicly announced and published, for public vetting of eligibility.

Vetting:
30 days to challenge eligibility of individuals in each Candidate Group (done privately, to protect images), if any candidates are removed, shift numerical resulting in selection of the final ten actual candidates, plus remaining numerically ordered alternates.

Position Papers:
All candidates begin work on Position Paper
90 days before the election:
Vetting ceases. If any candidates are ineligible or drop out, alternates are moved up, in numerical sequence, to fill-out the field of ten candidates
The ten candidates are announced. Alternates are dismissed.
All candidates required to provide written Position Paper, defining platform and stance on major issues. For {year}, the Position Paper must include ranking (from -10 to +10) of agreement with each specific section of the Candidate Position Issues section of The Reset Button, plus a written statement of position on each section (up to approximately 1 printed page.) Position Papers published, publicly.
These ten candidates are all given equal funding for marketing, get mandated equal time in all media, all participate in a minimum of 2 public debates (minimum of 3 public debates for Federal offices.)
Mandated debates begin.
No other funding may be used by candidates.
No campaigning or advertising by others for (or against) candidates, and no money may be spent by others on candidates.

**Candidate Selection, Multiple-Seat (Supreme Court justices, Senators, etc):**
A new system of selecting candidates, for all 'multiple-seat' elected positions, in Federal, State, and Local governments:
Candidates must fulfill eligibility requirements for the office sought, and must never have held that office.
180 days before an election:
Candidates must legally file intent to run, and pay a nominal candidate fee (initially $1000 federal election; $500 state; $100 city and county/parish – TBD by legislature after {year} election cycle, but never to exceed 'nominal')
120 days before the election:
All legally filed candidates names (on identical tokens) physically put into hopper.
Candidate Group is selected:
For 2 seat races: 10 times the seats initially selected, 5 times the seats names on the ballot
For 2+ seat races: 5 times the seats initially selected, 3 times the seats names on the ballot
Names are selected, randomly, quick checked for eligibility, and the initially selected eligible
individuals are secretly listed in numerical order [(number of names on ballot) are initial
candidates, the remainder are are alternate candidates.]
The entire Group of individuals, for public purposes, then becomes known as the Candidate
Group.
Candidate Group names (but not sequence numbers) are publicly announced and published,
alphabetically, for public vetting of eligibility.

Vetting:
30 days to challenge eligibility of candidates and alternates (done privately, to protect images),
resulting in selection of the final (number of names on ballot) actual candidates, plus remaining
numerically ordered alternates.

Position Papers:
All candidates begin work on Position Paper
90 days before the election:
Vetting ceases. If any candidates are ineligible or drop out, alternates are moved up, in numerical
sequence, to fill-out the field of (number of names on ballot) candidates
The (number of names on ballot) candidates are announced. Alternates are dismissed.
All candidates required to provide written Position Paper, defining platform and stance on major
issues. For {year}, the Position Paper must include ranking (from -10 to +10) of agreement with
each specific numbered topic of the Candidate Position Issues section of The Reset Button, plus a
written statement of position on each section (up to approximately 1 printed page.) Position Paper
published, publicly.
These ten candidates are all given equal funding for marketing, get mandated equal time in all
media, all participate in a minimum of 2 public debates (minimum of 3 public debates for Federal
offices.)
Mandated debates begin.
No other funding may be used by candidates.
No campaigning or advertising by others for (or against) candidates, and no money may be spent by
others on candidates.

Example 1: Senate race.
Each State elects 2 senators every election cycle, thus 2 seats are available. 5×2=10 names to appear on
ballot.
A total of 10 x number of seats (10×2=20) are initially selected by random draw, initially vetted, and if
eligible are then secretly listed in numerical order.
After 30 day vetting window, if any of the first 10 sequentially drawn candidates are eliminated, alternates
move up, sequentially, to fill-out the field of 10.

Example 2: Supreme Court Justices race.
All 9 Supreme Court Justices are elected every election cycle, thus 9 seats are available. 3×9=27 names to
appear on ballot.
A total of 5 x number of seats (5×9=45) are initially selected by random draw, initially vetted, and if eligible
are then secretly listed in numerical order.
After 30 day vetting window, if any of the first 27 sequentially drawn candidates are eliminated, alternates
move up, sequentially, to fill-out the field of 27.

Supreme Court Justices to be elected by the citizens of the US: top 9 in vote count, out of a field of 27
candidates. Although currently, there is no qualification of any sort to be a judge at any level, The Reset
Button introduces the concept that all judges should possess at least a minimum amount of legal knowledge. Federal high court (Supreme Court, Federal Court of Appeals, Federal District Courts, and Court of International Trade) and all lower court justice/judge candidates will be required to have passed a US Law Bar examination in one of the 50 States.

For the \{year\} elections, all votes will be counted by hand – no optical scanners or other devices may be used. After the \{year\} election cycle, and in-time for the 2016 election cycle, the joint houses of Congress will attempt to create a secure way to reinstate computerized voting, optical scanning for absentee and other paper ballots, and computerized tabulation, with a full paper audit trail, random sampling of every machine, and open-source transparency in all coding. This will allow more sophisticated types of voting algorithms (such as a combination of Instant Runoff Voting (IRV), Approval Voting (AV), and Single Transferable Vote (STV), depending on the number of seat vacancies and other factors), to further democratize the voting process. These more sophisticated (and better representative) vote counting algorithms cannot feasibly be achieved while hand counting multiple votes from over 100 million voters, in national elections.

**Vacancies:**
Vacancies in any federal, state, or local elected office (except president and governor, as they normally have a vice president and lieutenant governor ready to fill a vacancy) will trigger a vacancy election to be held not more than 210 days after a position becomes vacant (allowing 30 days to prepare, and the statutory 180 days for election procedures and processes.) If there are less than 240 days left in the term of office, no vacancy election will be held.

**Vote of Confidence, by Public Initiative:**
There will always be a percentage of voters that feel that their representative in elected or appointed office is not serving the will of the people. When this percentage exceeds a threshold percentage, the elected or appointed official must face a confidence vote. In a case where this percentage is exceedingly high, the elected or appointed official will have their duties suspended immediately, pending the outcome of a confidence vote.

Citizens qualified to begin a Vote of Confidence initiative must be a US citizen with sole US citizenship for at least 5 years, must not be a convicted felon, must have lived within the jurisdiction of the official named in the initiative for at least 5 years, must not be a board member or officer of any corporation, banking or other financial institution, or an officer or member of any stock/bond/commodity trading organization, must not have filed to begin any recall initiative in the past 5 years. To keep Vote of Confidence initiatives from becoming frivolous, the citizen that files the recall initiative must pay a filing fee equal to the jurisdictional election fee for the office currently in force. The Vote of Confidence initiative filer must pay their own filing fees, and/or may accept a maximum of 10% of the filing fees from any one individual, from up to 10 individuals (no business/corporate donations allowed.) Donors and amounts to be published publicly. Individuals may donate to only one Vote of Confidence initiative per every 5 years. Donations outside the scope of these rules will be considered as election tampering, and will be prosecuted accordingly.

Congressional oversight for federal elected positions: As a check and balance mechanism, to further guard against disruptive private agendas by individuals initiating a Vote of Confidence initiative, a 2/3 vote by both Houses of Congress declaring a Vote of Confidence initiative as frivolous, within the initial 120 day time window, halts the Vote of Confidence initiative process for that one initiative, and the filing fee is forfeited. State and local legislatures may decide to adopt a similar check and balance mechanism, and each state and local legislative body may enact such a safeguard against frequent, frivolous Vote of Confidence initiatives – but the governing body must adopt a 2/3 vote margin to halt a Vote of Confidence initiative.
Once a Vote of Confidence initiative is properly filed, signatures may be collected from registered voters within that jurisdiction. All signature collectors must be unpaid volunteers – no compensation of any kind is allowed. The Vote of Confidence initiative signature collecting process is completed when at least 15% of the number of votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled, have signed, or 120 days, whichever comes first. If 15% of the number of votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled do not sign the Vote of Confidence initiative within 120 days, the initiative fails. To mandate a freeze of duties of the elected or appointed official, at least 20% of the number of votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled must have signed the initiative before the 120 window of time elapses.

If the required number of signatures (based on the number of voters in this jurisdiction who voted in the previous election) is collected, a vote of confidence election must be held – with a simple yes/no vote of confidence worded as:

“Are you confident that {title, firstname, lastname} is serving the best interests of the people, as {title} in the position of {position} within the jurisdiction of {jurisdiction}?

☐ Yes, retain {title, firstname, lastname} in office.
☐ No, remove {title, firstname, lastname} from office.”

A simple majority (over 50%) will determine the outcome of the Vote of Confidence, and if the official is forced to vacate their office, the vacation is immediate, and the process of a vacancy election is begun. (A result within +/- 1% of the threshold (50%) will automatically trigger one recount, and the results of the recount are final.)
Proposed 28th Amendment to the US Constitution

Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment)

Section 1
The period designated as “good behaviour” in Article II, Section 1 of the US Constitution is hereby declared to be over, as of midnight on {full date: day/month/year}. All elected and appointed officials holding office before {full date: day/month/year}, will be retired from service at midnight on {full date: day/month/year}.

Section 2
All persons who have held any federal public office, elected or appointed, before January 1, {specific year}, shall be ineligible for any further elected or appointed public office.

Section 3
Justices of the Supreme Court, as well as all US Federal Judges, shall be elected officials, subject to the current laws pertaining to eligibility, the electoral process, and the recall process for judicial positions.

Section 4
Length of term of service of all elected and appointed political offices shall be four years, ending at midnight on December 31 at the end of each four-year election cycle. Term of service of all elected and appointed political offices shall begin at midnight on December 31 of each four-year election cycle year. No individual who has served as an elected or appointed official for at least two years of a term of service in a particular office or position may seek or accept more than one four-year term in that same office or position, unless there is no other eligible candidate for a particular office.

Section 5
No person having been convicted of having been engaged in conspiracy or collusion shall seek or attain elected or appointed political office, nor serve on the staff in any capacity, nor consult such office, anywhere in the United States, US Possessions, or US Territories.

Section 6
For all purposes pertaining to all interactions with the US Federal, State, and Local governments, including US Territories and US Possessions, including but not limited to all aspects of the election process, corporations or other artificial entities shall not be considered as “persons.”

Section 7
For all purposes pertaining to all aspects of elections and appointments for offices of US Federal, State, and Local governments, including US Territories and US Possessions, all funding shall be strictly public funding as prescribed by law and equal among all candidates for each office, and all other funding and gifts – tangible or intangible, domestic or foreign – are strictly prohibited.

Section 8
The Electoral College is hereby eliminated. The offices of President and Vice-President of the United States are hereby set to be determined by the direct votes cast by all United States citizens who are eligible to vote. The specifics of the voting method and for counting votes shall be as determined by federal voting laws current at the time of each election.
Election Reform Act

Title: Election Reform Act of {year}

Preamble: Whereas the people of the United States find that current election laws, procedures, and processes do not result in fair representation of the people of the United States in elected office, and deem it necessary to remedy this. In conformance to and corresponding with Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment) of the Constitution of the United States;

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

Section 1: All provisions within the Election Reform Act of {year} supersede any prior election laws, federal, state, county/parish, municipality, or township, whether or not specifically referenced herein.

Section 2: The first Tuesday in November shall be known as “National Election Day”, and shall be designated as an official Federal Public Holiday, to assist with voters' ability to get to the polls and vote.

Section 3: Qualifications of candidates for elected and appointed office: In addition to the Constitutionally defined qualifications for the offices of President, Vice-President, Senator, Representative, and Judges:

Sub-Section 3A: No candidate for elected or appointed office may hold dual (or more) citizenship, with the exception of a member of a federally recognized tribal nation within the US border. For offices where qualifications of citizenship waiting period are not specified in the US Constitution, a waiting period of not less than 10 years after becoming a US citizen and after renouncing any additional citizenship shall pass to be eligible to run for any otherwise qualified office or to accept any otherwise qualified public appointment.

Sub-Section 3B: No candidate for elected or appointed office, or immediate family member of a candidate, may be a board member or stockholder in any corporation or financial institution (bank, savings and loan, etc.), or be a member of any commodity or stock trading firm. In addition, as a requisite for seeking a term in elected office or in accepting a term in appointed office, the candidate must agree and sign a binding agreement not to enter into paid or unpaid service in any corporation or financial institution (bank, savings and loan, etc.), or be a member of any commodity or stock trading firm, or purchase or take possession of or control of any shares of stock, immediately after leaving office, for a waiting period of five (5) years.

Sub-Section 3C: No candidate for elected or appointed office may have ever previously served in the same elected or appointed office.

Sub-Section 3D: Each judicial candidate for elected or appointed office must have passed a US State Law Bar examination at some time before filing for candidacy.

Section 4: Candidate filing fee:

Sub-Section 4A: Candidate filing fees: Candidate filing fees shall be $1000 for a Federal office; $500 for a State office; $100 for city and county/parish and township office. Filing fee amounts to be
determined by Congress after \{year\} election cycle, but never to exceed 'nominal.'

Sub-Section 4B: Candidates must pay their own filing fees, and/or may accept a maximum of 10% of the filing fees from any one individual, from up to 10 individuals (no business/corporate donations allowed.) Donors and amounts to be published publicly. Individuals may donate to only one candidate per 4-year scheduled election season. Donations outside the scope of these rules will be considered as election tampering, and will be prosecuted accordingly.

Section 5: Campaign and Election Finances:

Sub-Section 5A: Other than the nominal filing fee outlined in Section 4, all funding for all elections is hereby mandated to come only from public funds.

Sub-Section 5B: A financial resource pool for campaign spending (hereafter referred to as the “Candidate Resource Pool Fund”) will be set up in the jurisdiction of each elected office, by the appropriate treasury, and will be divided into separate funds for each elected office.

Sub-Section 5C: Donations: US Businesses with no foreign or dual citizen owners/partners/staff members, US corporations and foundations with no foreign or dual citizen board members or staff members, and individual US citizens of non-dual citizenship may donate funds to the Candidate Resource Pool Fund in a specific jurisdiction, these funds immediately become public funds, and the donation amount will be considered as a charitable donation for tax purposes. Any donations must be handled as anonymous donations (donation source may not be revealed), though the information may be revealed simply as a jurisdictional donation amount on tax forms. No designation or recommendation for any candidate or political ideology may be directed or implied by a donation to the Candidate Resource Pool Fund, and any breach of this limitation will be considered as election tampering.

Sub-Section 5D: In the event of election fraud where fraud can be traced back to a corporation or other artificial entity, but where prosecution does not result in a conviction of an individual or individuals within the corporation or other artificial entity, that corporation or other artificial entity, and/or its parent corporation or other artificial entity may be levied the fine.

Sub-Section 5E: Candidate filing fees are added to the Candidate Resource Pool Fund for that jurisdiction, and are non-refundable.

Sub-Section 5F: The jurisdictional election officials in each jurisdiction may allocate additional funding, to be placed into the Candidate Resource Pool Fund, at the discretion of the jurisdictional election officials and with the availability of funds in a general operating fund or electoral operating fund for the jurisdiction.

Sub-Section 5G: 90 days before each election, Final Candidates for each elected office/seat are given an equal share of the available funds from the Candidate Resource Pool Fund for that particular elected office/seat, to be used at the discretion of each candidate for self-promotion towards election. All goods and services purchased must be paid in full at the time of ordering the goods or service, the goods or service and the vendor/provider must immediately be reported to jurisdictional election officials, and this information is then published publicly. Vendors/providers are mandated to offer the same goods/service to all candidates equally, and a breach of this regulation will be considered as election tampering. Any funds unspent by National Election day are ordered to be returned to the Candidate Resource Pool Fund.
Sub-Section 5H: No additional funds, donated funds, goods, or services may be provided by anyone (individual, charity, foundation, religious or secular group, collective, union, business, corporate entity, etc.- foreign or domestic) to any candidate, nor may any candidate provide additional funding to their own campaign beyond the amount allocated by the Candidate Resource Pool Fund fund for that particular elected office/seat. A breach of this regulation will be considered as election tampering.

Section 6: Candidate Selection, Single seat elections (President, US Representatives in districts with only a single Representative, Governor, Mayor, etc): All eligible and qualified individuals wishing to become candidates for single seat elected office may do so, by the following process:

Sub-Section 6A: By 150 days before an election, an individual must legally file intent to run, including:
1.) an affidavit declaring eligibility requirements have been met,
2.) an affidavit declaring all filing fee donors (if any) and amounts donated,
3.) an affidavit declaring the candidate's pledge not to enter the corporate/banking/stock-bonds sector for 5 years after term in office
4.) in the case of judges, proof of having passed a US State Law Bar examination
5.) pay the candidate fee.

Jurisdictional election judges for each jurisdiction are responsible for initial vetting (quick-checking qualifications, and checking all paperwork submitted.)

Sub-Section 6B: 120 days before the election, all legally filed candidates names (on identical tokens) physically put into a hopper. Candidate Group is selected: Names are selected randomly, by drawing tokens from the hopper, and the first twenty (20) eligible individuals are secretly listed in numerical order [1 through 10 are initial candidates, 11 through 20 are alternate candidates.] The entire Group of 20 individuals, for public purposes, then becomes known as the Candidate Group for the seat being elected. Candidate Group names (but not sequence numbers) are publicly announced and published, alphabetically, for public vetting of eligibility.

Sub-Section 6C: Vetting: Once the Candidate Group is announced, registered voters within the jurisdiction of the seat being elected have 30 days to challenge eligibility of any individuals within the Candidate Group. Challenges to eligibility must be filed directly to the election judges for the jurisdiction, and may not be made public. Challenges deemed by election judges to be without merit and with malice may result in prosecution for election tampering. If any of the first 10 candidates are declared ineligible, alternates are moved up the list in numerical order, as previously chosen, filling-in the first 10 spots.

Sub-Section 6D: 90 days before the election: Vetting ceases. If any candidates are found to be ineligible or drop out, alternates are moved up, in numerical sequence, to fill-out the field of 10. The individuals occupying the first 10 spots within the Candidate Group are announced as the list of Candidates that will be placed on the ballot for the election. All non-judicial candidates begin work on a Position Paper. For the {year} election, the Position Paper must include ranking (from -10 to +10) of agreement with each specific numbered topic of the Candidate Position Issues section of The Reset Button document, plus a written statement of position on each section (up to approximately 1 printed page), in the final, revised state of the Candidate Position Issues section, as released 60 days before the election. Candidates may begin to spend the funds allocated to them from the Candidate Resource Pool Fund for that particular elected office/seat, but may spend no other money in campaigning/self-promotion. Mandated, (3 minimum for federal seats, 2 minimum for all other
seats), moderated, public debates between candidates may begin – and must be completed at least 7
days before the election. The sequence number of the dismissed alternates may be published, but the
sequential order of the candidates on the ballot is to remain hidden until after the election is complete.

Sub-Section 6E: In an attempt to provide as level a playing field as is possible, it is mandated that all
Candidates must be given equal time and prominence in all media, broadcast and print. No
campaigning or advertising will be permitted by others for (or against) candidates, and no money
may be spent by others (individuals, businesses, corporations, foundations, charities, etc.) on
candidates.

Sub-Section 6F: 60 days before the election: All Position Papers are published publicly. Any
Candidate that has not met the deadline for completing the Position Paper will be dismissed from the
ballot.

Sub-Section 6G: As the citizens of the United States own “the [broadcast] airwaves” and
subsequently lease access to specific frequencies to broadcast networks and television stations, the
top 3 television broadcast networks are mandated to live broadcast all candidate debates for all
elections of federal seats (President, US Senators, US Representatives, and Federal Judges/Justices),
without cost, as a public service. Public Broadcast System (PBS network television stations) are
mandated to live broadcast all non-Federal seat debates, and where that option is not feasible as live
televised coverage the debates must be broadcast by PBS radio stations.

Section 7: Candidate Selection, multi-seat elections (Senators, US Representatives in districts with more than
one Representative, Judges/Justices, etc): All eligible and qualified individuals wishing to become candidates
for multiple-seat elected office may do so, by the process outlined in Section 6, but with the following
modifications:

Sub-Section 7A: For elections with 2 seats available: The initial number of individuals randomly
selected by token from a hopper and listed in numerical sequence shall be twenty (20), and the final
number of individual candidates to be placed on the ballot shall be a total of ten (10.)

Sub-Section 7B: For elections with 3 or more seats available: The initial number of individuals
randomly selected by token from a hopper and listed in numerical sequence shall be five (5) times the
number of available seats, and the final number of individual candidates to be placed on the ballot
shall be a total of three (3) times the number of seats.

Section 8: Ballots, voting, and vote counting procedure:

Sub-Section 8A: Paper ballots will be used in all {year} US elections, and votes are to be cast by the
voter indicating their candidate selection, in pen or pencil in a box next to the name of the candidate,
voting for up to the number of seats available. Ballots for all US elections will be of a uniform design
with a simple box next to a candidate name, providing for a vote to be cast by filling in the box next
to the name of up to the number of seats available. Ballots with more boxes marked than seats
available for an office will be considered as “spoiled” for that one office, and will not be counted for
that one office.

Sub-Section 8B: The US House of Representatives shall immediately appoint a Commission, the
“{year} Uniform Election Ballot Creation Commission”, to immediately create the format/template
for paper Election Ballots to be used in all States in the {year} elections. Commission to complete
this task within 30 days of the passage of this Act. Failure of the US House of Representatives to
complete this task on-time will default this task to a format as supplied as an addendum to The Reset Button.

Sub-Section 8C: For the \{year\} election, vote counting and tabulation must be done by hand – no optical scanners may be used, no electronic or computerized voting to be allowed for official vote counting.

Sub-Section 8D: For the \{year\} election, “first-past-the-post” (the candidate with the highest number of votes) is declared the winner, in all single-seat elections.

Section 9: Vote of Confidence by Citizen Initiative: A mechanism to enable citizens to recall an elected or appointed official.

Sub-Section 9A: Citizens qualified to file a Vote of Confidence initiative must be a US citizen with sole US citizenship for at least the previous 5 years, must not be a convicted felon, must have lived within the jurisdiction of the official named in the initiative for at least 5 years, must not be a board member or officer of any corporation, banking or other financial institution, or an officer or member of any stock/bond/commodity trading organization, must not have filed to begin any recall initiative in the past 5 years.

Sub-Section 9B: Vote of Confidence initiative filing fee shall be equal to the filing fee paid by the elected official that is the subject of the Vote of Confidence.

Sub-Section 9C: The Vote of Confidence initiative filer must pay their own filing fees, and/or may accept a maximum of 10% of the filing fees from any one individual, from up to 10 individuals (no business/corporate donations allowed.) Donors and amounts to be published publicly. Individuals may donate to only one Vote of Confidence initiative per every 5 years. Donations outside the scope of these rules will be considered as election tampering, and will be prosecuted accordingly.

Sub-Section 9D: Once a Vote of Confidence initiative is properly filed, signatures may be collected from registered voters within that jurisdiction. All signature collectors must be unpaid volunteers – no compensation of any kind is allowed. The Vote of Confidence initiative signature collecting process is completed when at least 15% of the number of of the votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled have signed, or 90 days from the filing date, whichever comes first. If 15% of the number of the votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled have not signed the Vote of Confidence initiative within 120 days, the initiative fails. To mandate an immediate freeze of duties of the elected or appointed official, at least 20% of the number of of the votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled must have signed the initiative before the 120 day window of time elapses.

Sub-Section 9E: Congressional oversight on Vote of Confidence initiatives for Federal offices: A 2/3 majority by both Houses of Congress declaring a Vote of Confidence initiative as frivolous, within the initial 120 day signature gathering time window, nullifies that Vote of Confidence initiative and prevents it from continuing on to ballot, unless signatures gathered total 25% of the number of of the votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled. A properly filed Vote of Confidence initiative signed by 25% of the number of of the votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled overrides a Congressional declaration as a frivolous initiative, and guarantees that a Vote of Confidence election will be held unless the elected official immediately steps down.

A Vote of Confidence initiative nullified as frivolous causes the filing fee to be forfeited and
disbursed into the Candidate Resource Pool Fund for the jurisdiction. State and local legislatures may decide to adopt a similar check and balance mechanism, and each State and local legislative body may enact such a safeguard against frivolous Vote of Confidence initiatives – but the governing body must adopt a 2/3 vote margin to declare a Vote of Confidence initiative as frivolous, and the ability of registered voters to override the declaration as frivolous by collecting valid signatures of the required 25% of the number of of the votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled.

Sub-Section 9F: If at least 20% of the number of of the votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled have signed the initiative before the 120 day signature gathering window of time elapses, and the initiative is properly filed on-time, and the signature validation process statistically yields that the burden of collecting the signatures of 20% of the number of of the votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled has been met, then a “freeze” is placed on the elected or appointed official, and all duties are temporarily suspended until the outcome of the Vote of Confidence is announced, or until a declaration by joint houses of Congress is made that the Vote of Confidence initiative is deemed to be frivolous.

Sub-Section 9G: If the required number of valid signatures (based on of the number of of the votes cast in the last election for the official being recalled) is collected, a vote of confidence election must be held within 210 days (allowing 30 days to prepare, and the statutory 180 days for election procedures and processes.)

Sub-Section 9H: A minimum of 10% of all signatures to be randomly selected and validated by election judges for the jurisdiction, and the percentage totals of valid signatures in the sample to be statistically equated with the entire set of signatures. Signatories discovered to be invalid during this process are subject to prosecution for election tampering.

Sub-Section 9I: Vote of Confidence ballot nomenclature: A simple yes/no vote of confidence worded as:
“Are you confident that {title, firstname, lastname} is serving the best interests of the people, as {title} in the position of {position} within the jurisdiction of {jurisdiction}? □ Yes, retain {title, firstname, lastname} in office.
□ No, remove {title, firstname, lastname} from office.”

Sub-Section 9J: A simple majority (over 50%) will determine the outcome of the Vote of Confidence. If the outcome of the Vote of Confidence is removal from office, the official is forced to vacate their office immediately, and the process of a vacancy election is begun. A result within +/- 1% of the threshold (50%) will automatically trigger one manual recount, and the outcome is final at the conclusion of the recount.

Section 10: Campaign advertising, marketing, and endorsements:

Sub-Section 10A: The clear intent is to “equalize the playing field” of opportunity for all candidates for each elected position, and to eliminate or minimize as much as is possible, bias and influence due to monetary resources, position, or influential allies or foes – or the lack thereof – and to foster a new era in political campaigns where voters receive a true sense of each candidate's positions on major, current, pertinent issues through the mandated Position Papers and mandated Debates. All sub-sections within this section fall under the umbrella of this intent.

Sub-Section 10B: In addition to the financial restrictions outlined in sub-section 5H of this Act, it it specifically forbidden for any entity (individual, charity, foundation, religious or secular group,
collective, union, business, corporate entity, etc.- foreign or domestic) to provide any advertising or marketing or any form of assistance such as consulting, phone calling/phone banking, “push-polling”, for or against any candidate, beyond the candidates own use of funds as allocated by the Candidate Resource Pool Fund. A breach of this regulation will be considered as election tampering.

Sub-Section 10C: No additional funds, donated funds, goods, or services may be provided by any entity (individual, charity, foundation, religious or secular group, collective, union, business, corporate entity, etc.- foreign or domestic) to any candidate, nor may any candidate provide additional funding beyond the amount allocated by the Candidate Resource Pool Fund for that particular elected office/seat.

Sub-Section 10D: Current and former elected and appointed officials, as well as any other entity, (individual, charity, foundation, religious or secular group, collective, union, business, corporate entity, etc. – foreign or domestic) may not announce, make public, or 'leak', an endorsement for or announce opposition to any candidate.

Sub-Section 10E: No pre-election polling data may be released or 'leaked' before the election is over. “Push polling” – attempting to influence an election with manipulative wording in poll questions – is considered as marketing and is thus strictly forbidden. A breach of this regulation will be considered as election tampering.

Section 11: Voter Compensation:

Sub-Section 11A: In consideration of the fact that all US citizens are actually members of the US government, in a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, US voters who complete the candidate and issue voting process in major elections held every four years, will be financially compensated. Compensation shall consist of an amount equal to four hours, multiplied by the federal minimum hourly wage, or fifteen US dollars, whichever is greater.

Sub-Section 11B: US voters who complete the candidate and issue voting process in special elections held as necessary to fill vacancies between four year cycle major elections, will be financially compensated. Compensation shall consist of an amount equal to one hour at the federal minimum hourly wage, or fifteen US dollars, whichever is greater.

Sub-Section 11C: Voter Compensation shall be paid as demand-printed, dated, serialized, assigned, non-transferable EBT vouchers, redeemable at Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) locations. Vouchers to be valid for 30 days after the election, and are to be unrestricted as to what may be purchased with them.

Sub-Section 11D: To spend the Voter Compensation voucher, voters will need to have either a current, valid account set up with SNAP program, or complete a special SNAP registration, limited to redeeming Voter Compensation vouchers.

Sub-Section 11E: Special SNAP registration (limited to redeeming Voter Compensation vouchers) to become an automated feature of voter pre-registration.

Sub-Section 11F: Voter Compensation voucher to be decremented as used at EBT/SNAP locations, until voucher reaches zero value or until valid time-frame expires. No cash change to be given.

Section 12: Penalties:
Sub-Section 12A: Civil Penalties for election tampering: convictions will result in fines up to $100 billion US dollars, for each count.

Section 13: This bill will go into effect immediately after passage.
You have completed **The Reset Button, Election Reform, documentation.**

The Reset Button's “Election Reform” – **one amendment and one law**, removing the controlling influence of power, position, and money in elections – is all you are asked to support.

The goal of The Reset Button is to put ordinary US citizens – legally, lawfully, and non-violently – in control of all three branches of the US government – by completely removing the control and influence of the Financial Elite and Power Elite from US elections.

You do not need to support or agree with anything in the Candidate Position Issues essays section to support The Reset Button – the only direct tie-in is that the issues described in Candidate Position Issues will be mandated to be *addressed* by all candidates for office in {the year of the election.} Make sure you understand that **candidates do not have to agree with anything written in the essays in the Candidate Position Issues section**, they are simply mandated to **address the issues, in writing**, so that all voters know exactly where they stand on all the issues listed in the Candidate Position Issues section. A candidate could disagree with every single word in the Candidate Position Issues essays and still be elected.

Topics in the **Candidate Position Issues** section (required for all candidates for office to respond to, with a written Position Paper) are:

1. **Congressional Reform**
2. **Banking and Monetary Reform**
3. **Representation Reform**
4. **Energy Reform**
5. **Education Reform**
6. **Executive Branch Reform**
7. **Indigenous People – Sovereign Nation Issues**
8. **Job Strategies**
9. **Strategies to End Poverty & Lift the Working Poor**
10. **Food, Water, and Air Sovereignty Reform**
11. **Agricultural and Ranching Reform**
12. **Corporate Reform**
13. **Stock Market Reform**
14. **Tax Reform**
15. **Medical & Pharmacology Reform**
16. **Health Care Reform**
17. **Mass Media Reform**
18. **Judicial and Penal System Reform**
19. **Labor Reform**
20. **Military Reform**
21. **Intelligence Reform**
22. **Security Reform**
23. **Police Reform**
24. **Redistricting Reform (End Gerrymandering)**
25. **Legal System Reform**
26. **Social Democracy/Capitalism Unification**
So, you read The Reset Button, Election Reform. What next?

You have knowledge:

- You now know that the Elite (Financial Elite and Power Elite) are in complete control of the entire election system, the “electoral paradigm.”
- You now know that there are 9 ways the Elite control the electoral paradigm, to make sure that they retain control of our governance.
- You now know that only a comprehensive approach – stopping all of the 9 ways simultaneously, with one new constitutional amendment and one new law – will actually take away the Elite's control of elections and put the control of elections into the hands of ordinary citizens.
- You now know that the top 3 ways that the Elite control the electoral paradigm are not monetary, so “getting the money out of elections” and/or overturning “Citizens United” is inadequate to the task of US citizens gaining a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.
- You now know why only corporate-centric legislation and legislation stripping citizens of rights has been passed, and no citizen-centric legislation has been passed in literally decades.
- You now know that all of the citizen-centric changes that we need are impossible while the Elite control the entire electoral paradigm and embed Elite-aligned individuals in all high office positions.
- When Election Reform goals are met, we will finally have a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. We ordinary citizens will finally be able to address the issues affecting us, our nation, and our world. We will no longer be asking / begging / demanding that they solve the problems; we will solve the problems.

The issues covered in The Reset Button Candidate Position Issues section only matter if Election Reform goals are met. “Election Reform” goals (one amendment and one law) will only be met if we each are willing to support it with our whole hearts, minds, and souls.

Take a quick glance at the titles of the issues in The Reset Button's Candidate Position Issues section. Realize that these are the issues screamed by protesters across the US (and in some cases, the world over), and are the declared goals and the defining issues of our times. By supporting The Reset Button Election Reform, you will be adding your voice to those demanding that (ordinary, citizen) candidates must address these issues, in writing, so that we citizen voters can make an informed choice when voting. Again, candidates do not have to agree with anything in the Candidate Position Issues section, they are simply mandated to address the issues, in writing, so that all voters know where they stand on all the issues listed in the Candidate Position Issues section.

Regardless what your own views are on the essays within the Candidate Position Issues, those issues will never even be brought up for public dialog by corporate-controlled candidates in an Elite-controlled election process. The Reset Button “Election Reform”, is what you are asked to support – support immediately and with your whole heart, whole soul, and whole mind – in order to put citizen-aligned citizens into all positions of governance – where the major issues of our times can finally be addressed, reviewed, debated, and with citizen-aligned individuals deciding on a course of action.

This is an unprecedented opportunity for US citizens, “We the People”, to oust the Elite-aligned from governance, and to finally have a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

“Support” by sharing, cheer-leading, championing, inserting into blogs and alternative news and social networking websites, and a “viral” email campaign. “Support” by discussing passionately at any and every open forum, meeting, and open mic. “Support” by printing copies and placing them anywhere that people
with open minds gather. Please do this immediately, do not wait. Everyone has a right to see this information and to decide for themselves whether they want to continue to support rule by the Elite, or if they want to support US citizens controlling US elections and gaining self-governance.

**Action date:** January 4, 2014: The Reset Button, revision 3.0, released.

On the following (to be determined) action dates, your support needs to include the following actions to make it happen:

**Action date:** {full date: day/month/year;} If Both houses of Congress have not passed Election Reform Act and ratified Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment), we the people will be forced to take the following actions, simultaneously, to redress our grievance:

- A nationwide stay-at-home General Strike lasting until our demand is met, and
- Complete withdrawal of all of citizen financial support of the Financial Elite and Power Elite (through boycotting all large corporations), and
- Complete divestment of all stocks in all large corporations, and
- Moving all money remaining in large banks.

**Action date:** {full date: day/month/year;} If Both houses of Congress have not passed Election Reform Act and ratified Amendment XXVIII (Election Reform Amendment), we the people will be forced to take the following actions to redress our grievance:

- The United States government, and all members of the United States government, whether elected or appointed, are hereby declared to be illegitimate in the eyes of US citizens and of the world.
- We the People of the United States agree to begin the process of holding elections – per Election Reform of The Reset Button – to replace all elected and appointed officials that have been declared as illegitimate.

We the People need your help. Do you want this? Do you have the courage to help make this happen? This is not a petition, this is a declaration. Commit. Sign. Share.

~ End of The Reset Button, Election Reform, documentation. ~