

Ethics Ban on Campaign Contributions from Companies Regulated or Contracted by the New Orleans City Council

New Orleans City Council
UCTT Committee Meeting
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Monique Harden

Assistant Director of Law and Public Policy
Community Engagement Program Manager

Path to strengthening the Ethics Code



6/28/21 Greater New Orleans Interfaith Climate Coalition proposes to the Ethics Review Board an amendment to the Ethics Code to prohibit campaign contributions from companies regulated or contracted by the New Orleans City Council

7/12/21 & 8/9/21 Ethics Review Board holds public meetings on the proposed Ethics Code amendment; unanimously votes for recommendation to the City Council

2/17/22 Councilmember Helena Moreno authors the Ethics Code amendment

3/29/22 Council Utility Committee votes in favor of the Ethics Code amendment after hearing comments in support from people across the city.

Proposed safeguards against undue influence, part 1



Section 2-784. – Prohibited campaign contributions and financial benefits (with amendment).

(A) No Councilmember or candidate seeking the office of Councilmember shall accept or otherwise receive a campaign contribution or any other financial benefit of any value from:

- 1) Any entity that provides an electric or gas utility, cable, telecommunications or technology service regulated by the City Council;**
- 2) Any political action committee, member, manager, or officer of an entity from which contributions are prohibited under 2-784(1);**
- 3) Any person, firm or entity with a professional service contract awarded by the City Council; or**
- 4) Any person, firm or entity with a professional service contract awarded by the New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board.**

Proposed safeguards against undue influence, part 2



Section 2-784. – Prohibited campaign contributions and financial benefits (with amendment).

(B) No Councilmember or candidate seeking the office of Councilmember shall accept or otherwise receive a campaign contribution or any other financial benefit of any value from a person or entity when he or she knows or has reason to believe that the donor has or will be reimbursed for the donation in whole or in part from a person or entity identified in subsection (A)(1)-(4).

Proposed safeguards against undue influence, part 3



Section 2-785. – Required disclosures.

No later than 30 days from the deadline of qualifying as a candidate seeking the office of Councilmember, the candidate shall submit an affidavit to the Ethics Review Board and the City of New Orleans Law Department that affirms or denies the following:

- 1) Acceptance of compensation or financial benefit of any value from an entity regulated by the City Council or contracted to provide a service to the City Council in the previous five years; and/or
- 2) Any time served on the board of a corporation or entity that is either regulated by the City Council or contracted to provide a service to the City Council in the previous five years.

Service areas of Entergy, BellSouth/AT&T, and Cox where corporate campaign contributions are prohibited

Entergy

Arkansas
Michigan
Mississippi

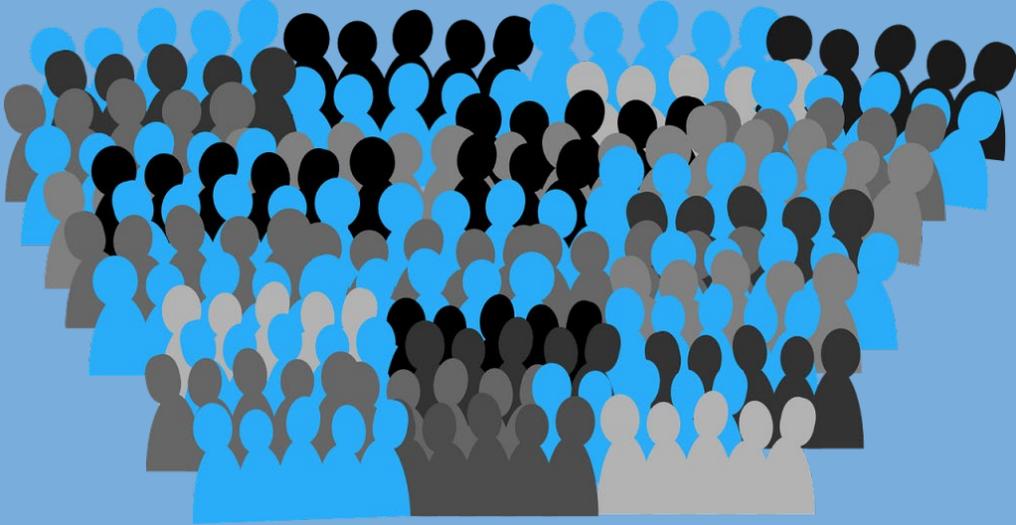
BellSouth/AT&T

Georgia
Kentucky
Mississippi
North Carolina

Cox Communications

Arizona
Arkansas
Connecticut
Georgia
Massachusetts
North Carolina
Ohio
Oklahoma
Rhode Island

Protecting democratic freedoms: core values



- Public service for the public interest, not private gain
- Effective and meaningful public participation
- Independent and impartial decision-making
- Avoiding conflicts of interest

Thank you.



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