Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to the authority of Congress and the States to regulate contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections and to enact public financing systems for political campaigns.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SCHIFF introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on ________________________

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to the authority of Congress and the States to regulate contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections and to enact public financing systems for political campaigns.

1 Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives
2 of the United States of America in Congress assembled
3 (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the fol-
4 lowing article is proposed as an amendment to the Con-
5 stitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all
6 intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when
ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several
States within seven years after the date of its submission
for ratification:

“ARTICLE —

“SECTION 1. Congress and the States may regulate
and impose reasonable viewpoint-neutral limitations on the
raising and spending of money by candidates and others
to influence elections.

“SECTION 2. Congress and the States may regulate
and enact systems of public campaign financing, including
those designed to restrict the influence of private wealth
by offsetting the raising and spending of money by can-
didates and others to influence elections with increased
public funding.

“SECTION 3. Congress and the States shall have
power to implement and enforce this article by appropriate
legislation, and may distinguish between natural persons
and corporations or other artificial entities created by law,
including by prohibiting such entities from spending
money to influence elections.

“SECTION 4. Nothing in this article shall be con-
strued to grant Congress or the States the power to
abridge the freedom of the press.”.