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TI-USA Statement on the Disclose Bill

June 25, 2010

TI-USA welcomes passage by the House of Representatives of the “DISCLOSE” bill (“Democracy Is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections”), an important, albeit imperfect, legislative response to the Supreme Court’s decision in *Citizens United v. FEC* earlier this year.

The bill contains many vital measures to improve transparency in campaign financing, including stricter disclosure requirements on corporations and most interest groups, as well as restrictions on political activity for companies that have received TARP money, have \$10 million or more in government contracts, or are foreign-controlled.

Unfortunately, the bill also contains exemptions for large non-profit organizations that have more than 1 million members and receive 15 percent or less of their funding from corporations. It is ironic and regrettable that legislation intended to reduce the political influence of special interest organizations has been weakened by such influence. Nonetheless, TI-USA believes the bill represents a step in the direction of greater transparency in election financing.

We strongly encourage the Senate to take up, improve and pass its own Disclose bill.