

## State Elections Enforcement Commission



# Press Release

December 18, 2019

## STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION ANNOUNCES AWARD OF SPECIAL ELECTION GRANT

HARTFORD, CT – December 18, 2019 – The State Elections Enforcement Commission (the “Commission”) voted at its December 18, 2019 regular meeting to approve public grant payments under the Citizens’ Election Program (“CEP”) for candidates in the January 14 and January 21, 2020 special elections in the 48th, 132nd, and 151st House Districts.

The Commission approved state representative candidates Mark DeCaprio (R—48th District), Brian Farnen (R—132nd District), Jennifer Leeper (D—132nd District), Cheryl Moss (D—151st District), and Brian Smith (D—48th District) for special election grants.

The CEP is a voluntary program that allows qualifying candidates for the General Assembly and statewide offices to receive full public financing in regular and special elections. To qualify for public campaign financing, candidates must demonstrate they have adequate support from the public. In special elections, candidates for state representative accomplish this by raising \$3,800 from at least 113 individuals residing in municipalities in their districts. Participating candidates may only accept small dollar contributions from certain individuals—the maximum contribution is \$250—and no contributions from state contractors or PACs. Successful major party candidates will receive a grant of \$21,112.50, but then may not accept money from any other sources.

The CEP was designed, in part, to reduce the influence of special interests in state politics. In its eleventh year of providing public funding to General Assembly candidates, the CEP continues to provide a seawall against the rising tide of special interest money in Connecticut elections.

For more information please contact Joshua Foley at [joshua.foley@ct.gov](mailto:joshua.foley@ct.gov).

**Press Contact:** Joshua Foley tel. 860-256-2962 email: [joshua.foley@ct.gov](mailto:joshua.foley@ct.gov)