

# State Elections Enforcement Commission

## Citizens' Election Program



Press Release

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### **TWO CITIZENS' ELECTION PROGRAM GRANTS AWARDED TO CANDIDATES IN JUNE SPECIAL ELECTION**

HARTFORD, CT – May 28, 2013 – The State Elections Enforcement Commission has awarded public financing grants to both candidates for the June 11, 2013 special election in the 53rd House District. On May 22, 2013, at a special meeting of the Commission, Sam Belsito's candidate committee, *Belsito for State Representative*, was awarded a full special election grant of \$20,138. Today, also at a special meeting, the Commission awarded a second, full grant to Anthony Horn's candidate committee, *Friends of Tony Horn*. The commission voted unanimously to award both grants. Sam Belsito, the Republican nominee, is from Tolland. Anthony Horn, the Democratic nominee, is from Ashford.

On April 16, 2013, Representative Bryan Hurlburt announced his resignation from the House of Representatives, triggering the need for a special election in the 53rd House District. On April 26, Governor Malloy issued a Writ of Special Election that set the date for June 11, 2013 for the election to choose the next Representative. The 53rd District, in eastern Connecticut, includes the towns of Ashford, Tolland and Willington.

All nominated and petitioning candidates in this special election were eligible to join the Citizens' Election Program and apply for public grants to finance their campaigns. Participating candidates were required to raise at least \$3,750 in qualifying contributions, including contributions from at least 113 individuals residing in municipalities in the 53rd District. Candidates participating in the Citizens' Election Program are not permitted take funds from state contractors, PACs or other special interests.

Since 2005, the State Elections Enforcement Commission has been home to the Citizens' Election Program, a groundbreaking effort to publicly finance Connecticut campaigns and restore trust in the electoral process. The bipartisan and independent Commission operates to ensure the integrity of the state's electoral process.

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