

State Elections Enforcement Commission



Press Release

April 26, 2019

STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION ANNOUNCES AWARD OF SPECIAL ELECTION GRANT

HARTFORD, CT – April 26, 2019 – The State Elections Enforcement Commission (the “Commission”) voted at its April 25, 2019 special meeting to approve public grant payments under the Citizens’ Election Program (“CEP”) for candidates in the May 7, 2019 special election in the 130th House District.

The Commission approved state representative candidates Antonio Felipe (D – 130th District) and Mary Kathleen “Kate” Rivera (D – 130th 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.

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.

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