



PRESS RELEASE

STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION ANNOUNCES THIRD GRANTS OF SEASON

HARTFORD, CT – The State Elections Enforcement Commission (the “Commission”) voted at its June 8, 2022 regular meeting to approve public grant payments under the Citizens’ Election Program (“CEP”) for candidates in the November 8, 2022 regular election.

The Commission determined that state representative candidates Kimberly Becker (D – 62nd District), Amy Morrin Bello (D – 28th District), Robert Boris (R – 41st District), Christie Carpino (R – 32nd District), Michelle Cook (D – 65th District), Eleni Kavros DeGraw (D – 17th District), Erica Evans (D – 14th District), Tammy Exum (D – 19th District), Jillian Gilchrest (D – 18th District), Michael Grant (R – 133rd District), Kenneth Gucker (D – 138th District), Cindy Harrison (R – 69th District), Kim Healy (R – 42nd District), Robert Hendrickson (R – 58th District), Rachel Khanna (D – 149th District), Heather Maguire (R – 17th District), David Michel (D – 146th District), Tony Morrison (R – 81st District), Christopher Poulos (D – 81st District), Karen Reddington-Hughes (R – 66th District), Farley Santos (D – 109th District), and Gary Turco, Jr. (D – 27th District) were eligible to receive CEP grants. The Commission also determined that state senate candidates Bob Duff (D – 25th District) and Rob Sampson (R – 16th District) were eligible to receive CEP grants. Statewide candidate Harry Arora (R – State Treasurer) was also determined to be eligible to receive a CEP grant.

The CEP is a voluntary program that allows qualifying candidates for General Assembly and statewide offices to receive full public financing for their campaigns. To qualify for public campaign financing, candidates must demonstrate that they have substantial support from the public. Candidates for state representative accomplish this by raising \$5,800 in contributions from individuals, with at least 150 coming from individuals residing in municipalities in their districts. Candidates for state senate accomplish this by raising \$17,300, with at least 300 coming from individuals residing in municipalities in their districts. Candidates for State Treasurer must raise \$86,600 in small dollar contributions of which \$78,000 must come from in-state contributors. Participating candidates may only accept small dollar contributions from certain individuals— the maximum contribution is \$290—and no contributions from state contractors or PACs. General election grant amounts are up to \$33,175 for state representative candidates and up to \$112,795 for state senate candidates. For statewide candidates (other than Governor), grant amounts are up to \$484,125 for candidates in primaries and up to \$968,250 for candidates in the general election.

The CEP was designed, in part, to reduce the influence of special interests in state politics while encouraging grassroots support of campaigns. In its fourteenth year of providing public funding to General Assembly candidates, and its twelfth for statewide candidates, the CEP continues to provide a seawall against the rising tide of special interest money in Connecticut elections and a critical, ongoing effort to restore the public’s trust in the institutions of democratic governance.