



Construction Industry Round Table

Legislative News

A force for positive change in the design / construction industry

7/23/2104 – Senate Democrats Push Flawed DISCLOSE Act, Yet Again

CIRT has joined over a hundred business organizations in a U.S. Chamber lead coalition to once again express its strong opposition to the third attempt at passing the so-called DISCLOSE Act, which seeks to muzzle political speech by the private sector. The latest version was recently introduced by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), called DISCLOSE 2014, with numerous Democrat cosponsors [including Rules Committee Chairman Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT)]. This proposed legislation, like its predecessors in the 111th and 112th Congresses, is designed to chill the political speech of corporations, business interests, and others, while giving labor unions special protections.

In a three-page letter ([click here for copy](#)) the organizations laid out the compelling reasons why the proposed bill is flawed and unworthy of passage, concluding: *“This legislation (like prior ones). . . . does not propose genuine reform—the disclosure requirements are transparently political and ultimately unconstitutional.”* Finally, the letter calls on the Senate to focus its attention on the myriad of bills that would address the important issues facing country and its economy, instead of the “election-year chicanery” and highly questionable Constitutionality of this proposed Act.

For further background on this important protected political speech issue for businesses, see: [“Testimony of Bradley A. Smith to the Senate Rules and Administration Committee on the DISCLOSE Act of 2014”](#) (July 23, 2014); Brad Smith, Center for Competitive Politics.