



www.ridemocrats.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 27, 2016
Contact: Bill Lynch 338-7444

Outside Special Interest Money Dumps Nearly \$100k to push Republican Candidates

The only rigging of this election is being done by RI's version of the Koch Brothers

WARWICK, R.I. - Senior Advisor to the R.I. Democratic Party, Bill Lynch, announced the results of an investigation into the amount of money that outside right-wing organizations have spent to try to influence the November 8th election for the General Assembly.

“Nearly \$100k has been spent this year in an attempt to influence this election for Trump Republicans looking to take over the General Assembly,” stated Lynch. “I challenge all of these organizations to immediately disclose how much of their expenditures originated in donations from the Trucking Industry - who are clearly angry that they have to pay for road repairs instead of RI taxpayers.”

According to disclosures on <http://ricampaignfinance.com>, The Roosevelt Society has spent \$57,669.13 and the Gaspee Project has spent \$32,625.40 in 2016 trying to influence the election in favor of Republican candidates. This totals \$90,294.53 being spent on local races. Further, an email sent by the Gaspee Project on Tuesday promises an additional round of spending before the November 8th election - likely putting them over the \$100k mark.

“I urge voters to reject this special interest money - especially if its coming from the Trucking industry - and to throw their negative attack mailers and their special interest money in the recycling bin where it belongs,” continued Lynch. “The only rigging of this election is being done by Rhode Island’s version of the Koch Brothers.”

For the Gaspee Project, one of the donors, Warren Galkin, is [a Wall Street executive](#) who has [donated over a quarter million over the years](#) and who was involved

in a life insurance annuity pool [that defrauded insurance companies by using the identities of terminally ill patients](#).

For the Gaspee Project, one of the donors, Warren Galkin, is [a Wall Street executive](#) who has [donated over a quarter million over the years](#) and who was involved in a life insurance annuity pool [that defrauded insurance companies by using the identities of terminally ill patients](#).

For the Roosevelt Society, its principle is Dr. Dan Harrop - an East Side Republican Party operative and former party boss. Yet, Dr. Harrop has a string of likely ethics violations. Just consider the following:

- In his 2013 Financial Statement, he stated that he owned no other real estate besides his house. Yet, in a news interview, he told Mark Patinkin that he “has a second home at the private Galilee Beach Club.”
- In the same Statement, he failed to list the Roosevelt Society which he founded in 2013 and serves as President
- He also failed to list his Board seats on the St. Thomas Becket Association, St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church Parish, Knights of Columbus, RI State Council, Ancient Order of Hibernians: McEnery Division #1, Mother of Life Center.
- In his 2013, 2012 and 2011 Financial Statements, Dr. Harrop failed [Compensation Court](#). According to 28-30-22, members of this board are paid \$300-\$500 a meeting. He has served as a member since 1993-present.
- In his 2011 and 2012 Financial Statements, Dr. Harrop does not identify any employment or income source. Yet, his resume indicates that he was employed by Human Services Consultants from 1996 to 2012.

“The only reason that the public knows about these expenditures are because of laws passed in recent years by Democrats requiring disclosures of these electioneering expenses,” stated Lynch. “Republicans would prefer to have elections where “buyer takes all.””

“I hope voters reject the cynical and secretive politics of destruction that these groups are launching into mailboxes,” concluded Lynch.

****COVERAGE INVITED****

###