Pennsylvania

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Overall Rank

Overall Grade

Pennsylvania	Overall Rank	To Governor	To State Senate	To State House	To Parties	To PACs
Individual Giving	1	1	1	1	1	1
		Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
PAC Giving	1	1	1	1	1	
		Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	
Party Giving	1	1	1	1		
		Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited		
Union Giving	50	50	50	50		
		Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Corporate Giving	50	50	50	50		
		Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Inflation Adjustment: N/A						

Pennsylvania is one of 11 states without limits on contributions from individuals, political parties, or PACs, helping the state earn a high score in the Free Speech Index. Surrounded on all sides by states with highly complicated and restrictive laws on political giving, Pennsylvanians have instead opted to enjoy a free and open political debate. In that regard, the Keystone State serves as a model for the nation. It can join the five states with perfect scores in the Index by affording the same freedom to businesses and labor unions, which are prohibited from giving directly to candidates.

Sadly, Governor Tom Wolf has recently announced a desire to change Pennsylvania's campaign finance

laws for the worse, calling for contribution limits and unnecessary reporting requirements that would impede individuals and small groups from speaking in the state. Such moves, ostensibly in response to unrelated political scandals, would diminish freedom of speech without combatting corruption. Campaign finance regulations cannot transform a corrupt official into a dutiful public servant, and instead function to stifle the speech of those who would spotlight public corruption. Pennsylvanians would benefit greatly if such calls for limits were rejected as attacks on the state's praiseworthy commitment to free speech.