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- STATEMENT -

MERRILL: LATEST SUPREME COURT RULING ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE UNDERMINES CLEAN ELECTIONS

SECRETARY OF THE STATE ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING SUPREME COURT
DECISION IN MCCUTCHEON V. FEC

Hartford: Connecticut Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today issued the following statement regarding the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling today in the case of *McCutcheon V. FEC* that strikes down the federal cap on aggregate campaign contributions that individuals can give to candidates and party committees.

“I am deeply disappointed by the United State’s Supreme Court’s decision released today in *McCutcheon v. FEC*. Following in the wake of *Citizen’s United* and other cases, *McCutcheon* further erodes safeguards Congress has put in place over the last forty years to combat the corrupting influence of money in our political system. This decision further opens the floodgates to huge, widespread contributions by a few wealthy individuals seeking to influence our elections, giving them a far greater voice than ordinary citizens who can only give limited amounts to those running for office. The *McCutcheon* ruling underscores the importance of Connecticut’s public financing program for state candidates, the Citizens’ Election Program. A national model, our system empowers small donors, limits spending and frees candidates to campaign unfettered by special interest contributions and wealthy donors.”