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Russell Campaign to Report Over 100K Raised

12th Congressional Candidate Posts Mark Without Corporate Donations

Columbus, Ohio — With the conclusion of the final fundraising deadline before the May 8th primary, the John Russell campaign is proud to announce that it has raised more than 100K in campaign contributions. Significantly, this total has come despite Russell's pledge to refuse corporate donations, vowing instead to run a "people-driven campaign."

Russell's promise has been a central part of his campaign platform, dating back to his first town hall in Westerville. When asked by a voter regarding his thoughts on *Citizens United*, Russell said, "We have to be the change we want to see in politics. That's why my campaign will not be seeking, nor accepting, any corporate donations in this race."

A pledge to refuse corporate dollars is rare, both across the country and in the race for the 12th District. Only a few candidates have come forward and publicly refused corporate dollars, and none have been able to match Russell's campaign contributions.

Former-Representative Mary Jo Kilroy is among those impressed: "Fundraising is a hard job for a candidate and to do it without the benefit of corporate donations is even harder." She continued, saying "the power of money in politics is strong, but John is right: we have to be the change we want to see."

Along with the recent endorsement of former-Gubernatorial candidate Connie Pillich, the Russell campaign believes that its fundraising mark demonstrates that a progressive candidate is able to win in the 12th District. And as the primary draws closer, the campaign believes that more and more voters are starting to agree.

"Running a true, progressive, grassroots campaign is a difficult task," Kilroy said. "It takes hard work and dedication—from the staff all the way down to volunteers and interns. Most importantly, the candidate has to be truly committed to his or her ideals: John Russell is showing that it is possible to win by running on our best principles."

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