

Activists getting signatures to send finance law to ballot

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“Opponents of a campaign finance law approved by the General Assembly in a special session in December said they are halfway toward the necessary 193,740 signatures to force a public referendum on the issue. Filing a valid petition by March 30 will stop the law from going into effect.

The Committee Against Political Corruption, a new citizen action group, is teaming up with various unions and Democrats to persuade voters to thwart the law.

The new group includes Common Cause of Ohio, American Friends Service Committee, the Ohio Democratic County Chairs Association and the National Organization for Women.

Once signatures are verified, voters would decide Nov. 8 whether the law remains in place.

Greg Coleridge of the American Friends Service Committee, treasurer of the newly formed committee, said he wants to “reverse a very scandalous law.”

“This is an effort that is both high-tech and high-touch,” Coleridge said. Copies of the petition can be downloaded from www.ohiohonestelections.org.

The new campaign-finance law would quadruple the limit on contributions to \$10,000 while requiring wider disclosure by unions, corporations and county committees.”