

Senator Dave Argall
Chairman, Senate State Government Committee
Public Hearing on Senate Bill 982 and House Bill 2044
April 5, 2022

Opening Statement

Good afternoon and welcome to today's public hearing on Senate Bill 982 and House Bill 2044. The bills, while not identical, both seek to prohibit third-party donations to non-partisan government election officials.

Many will recall that the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, founded by Mark Zuckerberg and his wife, gave about \$250 million to the Center for Tech and Civic Life, an organization founded by a former member of the Obama administration, which up to that point had carried a balance of no more than \$4 million.

Yet, even before this enormous donation to this dark money group, the CTCL was engaged in providing grants to county election administrations in swing states, including Pennsylvania. The purpose of this hearing is to gauge support for these two bills.