



Verifiable online campaign contributions:

A loophole currently exists that allows political campaigns to avoid verifying a donor's identity by not requesting a **CVV** (card verification value) code when accepting online political contributions. This loophole opens up the opportunity for fraudulent and nearly unlimited financial contributions without attribution.

The possibility exists to circumvent the maximum donation limits and also leaves the door open for foreign entities to contribute game-changing amounts of money into our domestic elections. Through one online campaign money bundler alone, *nearly \$1.9 billion dollars* has been raised since 2004. Certainly, not all of these funds were contributed fraudulently or with malicious intent, but without the CVV code being legislatively mandated, we'll never know how much of that money is legitimate, versus how much was part of an illegal attempt to influence the outcome of an American election.

A noteworthy recent example is this summer's GA-06 special election. The GA-06 race shattered congressional fundraising records—totaling *in excess of \$50 million dollars*—including unprecedented *online contributions* exceeding *\$9 million dollars*.

All that is required to remove any ambiguity from this process is for the New Mexico State legislature to mandate that political campaigns be required to use the same industry-standard fraud prevention tools that online retailers use when accepting money online. The default CVV option confirms and cross references the name and address of the donor with the donor's actual bank account. While the enforcement component of such legislation would likely fall to the Secretary of State's office, the enactment of the law rests with the legislature to ensure the passage of this crucial, common sense, nonpartisan campaign finance reform.