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## Education group attacks Sinquefeld for "record-setting pace" in donations

By **Jo Mannies**

10/29/2007 3:50 pm

The **Missouri Citizen Education Fund**, an arm of the Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition, released today a report entitled: "**Rex Sinquefeld: Putting a Price on Politics.**"

The reports details the political spending so far of Sinquefeld, the multi-millionaire who helped found the Show-Me Institute. The Kansas City Star published [a profile of Sinquefeld](#) last weekend. The Post-Dispatch did one last spring.

The report lists more than \$700,000 that Sinquefeld has made so far in donations to various political candidates or groups.

The breakdown includes:

\$345,850 to Missouri legislative and statewide candidates

\$250,000 as seed money for his 100 new political action committees (\$99,450 of that then went as donations to state Sen. **Chris Koster's** campaign for Attorney General)

\$110,000 to the state House Republican Campaign Committee

\$100,000 to All Children Matter, a national group that seeks school choice through vouchers or other means

Sinquefeld also acknowledges that he had spent close to \$800,000 to aid the fight against a lawsuit — filed by various school districts — that challenged the state's public school foundation formula. A judge recently ruled against the districts.

"Rex Sinquefeld is on a record-setting pace to spend as much money as he can to pass private school voucher legislation in Missouri," said Greg Shufeldt, Political Director of the Missouri Citizen Education Fund. "It is important for Missourians to understand the financial dynamics of Rex Sinquefeld and his favored candidates."

A spokeswoman for Sinquefeld said that his donations are no different than those of unions or other politically active groups or individuals. "Rex is totally committed to improving education and public schools in Missouri," his spokeswoman said. "Support of candidates who share his view is his right as a public citizen."

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6. This is probably my number one major complaint about our current political system. Every person in politics is owned by somebody else. Any rules that are put in place to make a level playing field and to give the best instead of richest candidate a chance are easily dodged. Sinquefeld is just the latest and most blatant example of this kind of government for sale mentality.

Shame on all who haven't returned over limit donations, or who voted to remove those limits in the first place.

*Comment by Jon — October 30, 2007 @ 11:43 am*

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