

## Walker Is Kochs' \$5 Million Man

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MADISON - Billionaire energy executives [Charles and David Koch](#), who have pledged to spend about [\\$900 million](#) through secretive dark money groups on the 2016 presidential contest, would like Republican Gov. Scott Walker to emerge as the eventual GOP nominee.

The New York Times [reported](#) Monday that David Koch told attendees at a New York State Republican Party fundraiser that the Koch family would not back a candidate in the GOP primary, and would support whoever wins the Republican nomination, but that they hoped it would be Walker.

The Koch-backed [Americans for Prosperity](#) and the [Coalition for American Values](#) spent \$5.2 million to help Walker win his 2012 recall and 2014 reelection campaigns for governor, according to Wisconsin Democracy Campaign estimates. In addition, [Koch Industries Political Action Committee](#) directly contributed \$43,000 to help Walker win his 2010 race for governor.

David Koch, who also said his family may [personally support](#) the Wisconsin governor if he officially announces his run for president, previously praised Walker in a Florida newspaper in February 2012, calling Walker “courageous” for his successful plan to eliminate public employee collective bargaining rights in Wisconsin in 2011.