

**Resolution in Support of Constitutional Amendment
to Protect and Renew American Democracy**

[We the people of _____] [the town/city council of _____] resolve as follows:

In America, we believe that all people are created equal, born with certain unalienable rights, including life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness;

The United States Constitution and Bill of Rights are intended to protect these unalienable rights of human beings and to enable effective self-government by a free people;

Free, fair elections and equal representation for all are essential to democracy and effective governance, without corruption or favor for the powerful;

Certain decisions of the Supreme Court, such as in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, wrongly empower aggregations of wealth over the equal rights of American citizens in our political process;

Citizens United overturned longstanding law prohibiting corporations and unions from spending general treasury funds in our elections;

While money and corporations may be property and effective tools that people use to make meaningful contributions in our society, money and corporations are not human beings and are not empowered with the Constitutional rights of human beings;

Following *Citizens United*, vast amounts of money have been deployed in our elections, with the source of such money concentrated among a very small elite of the very wealthy, the largest corporations, unions, and super PACs;

The results of such spending deprive Americans' equal rights, equal representation, and equal responsibility to protect the integrity of elections and government; substantially increase the risk of corruption; undermine sound government; and pressure elected representatives to be accountable to a moneyed elite rather than to their constituents;

Under Article V of the United States Constitution, we the people and states of the United States of America have the right and duty to use the constitutional amendment process to correct erroneous decisions of the United States Supreme Court that undermine our equal rights as human beings and our democracy and republican government;

The people and states have strengthened the nation and preserved liberty and equality for all by using the amendment process throughout our history, including to reverse seven erroneous Supreme Court decisions in the past; and

Millions of Americans, irrespective of political party, in hundreds of cities and towns and numerous States have called for a 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that will reverse *Citizens United* and restore equal representation, accountable government, fair and free elections, and the unalienable rights of human beings, not corporations, in our Constitution.

Therefore, [we the people of _____] [the town/city council of _____] :

- (1) *Demand* that the United States Congress pass and send to the States for ratification a Constitutional amendment that effectively overturns *Citizens United*, restoring the ability of our communities, states and nation to limit the corroding effect of concentrated money in our elections, and protecting the rights of human beings, not corporations, in our Constitution; and
- (2) *Instruct* our elected representatives at every level of government to assist with the prompt enactment of the 28th Amendment reflecting the above principles and to enact campaign finance, anti-corruption and other laws and policies consistent with these principles.

Approved and enacted this day: _____
(Date)

Submitting Your Resolution

Once enacted, please send copies of your resolution to each of your Senators, members of Congress, state and local representatives, and other interested persons.

You can find contact information for your federal representatives at the Sunlight Foundation's Open Congress website here: <https://www.opencongress.org/people/zipcodelookup>

You can find contact information for your state representatives from the Sunlight Foundation's Open State website here: http://openstates.org/find_your_legislator/

Finally, please send a copy of your resolution and let us know of any feedback that might be helpful to resolutions@freespeechforpeople.org

Thank you!