

Model Ballot Measure

Sample Language for a Resolution Reversing *Citizens United*

Corporations do not have the same rights as real people and that there should be limits on lobbying and campaign spending by supporting an amendment to the United States Constitution.

Ballot summary

Shall the citizens of *XXX State/City* instruct our member[s] of Congress to support an amendment to the United States Constitution to clarify that corporations do not have the same rights as people and that money is not speech for purposes of election-related spending?

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights are intended to protect the rights of individual human beings (“real people”); and,

WHEREAS, corporations are not mentioned in the Constitution and The People have never granted constitutional rights to corporations;

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* presents a serious threat to self-government by allowing unlimited corporate spending to influence elections;

WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution empowers and obligates the people of the United States of America to use the constitutional amendment process to correct egregiously wrong decisions of the United States Supreme Court that go to the heart of our democracy;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the voters of *XXX State/City* should have the opportunity on the November 2012 ballot to instruct *jurisdiction’s* congressional representative[s] to propose [*and our state legislators to ratify*] an amendment to the United States Constitution to provide that corporations are not entitled to the constitutional rights of real people and that money is not speech for purposes of campaign-related expenditures and contributions.

the people’s campaign
to reclaim democracy