

264-12

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REVERSE THE EFFECTS OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT DECISION IN *CITIZENS UNITED V. FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION*

WHEREAS, natural human beings are entitled to citizenship and the rights, privileges, and benefits thereof; and

WHEREAS, corporations while generally constructive in providing important benefits, are not human beings, but "artificial immortal beings," as defined by Chief Justice John Marshall; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 Supreme Court decision, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, declared corporations to be persons and eliminated legal limits on corporate political spending; and

WHEREAS, corporate money may be spent limitlessly to influence elections at the federal, congressional, state, county, and municipal levels, thereby diluting the power of the people; and

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution has been amended many times in response to a groundswell of public opinion, local representatives may choose to give voice to the concerns of its citizenry and advise Congressional representatives of these concerns; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of people and municipalities across the nation, including ten cities in North Carolina, have joined together to call for an Amendment to the United States Constitution to abolish corporate personhood, in order to reverse the effects of the United States Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

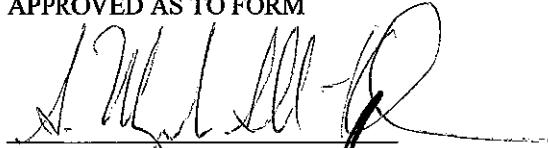
That on behalf of the citizens of our municipality, we call upon our elected representatives in the United States Congress to initiate the process to amend the Constitution of the United States to establish that:

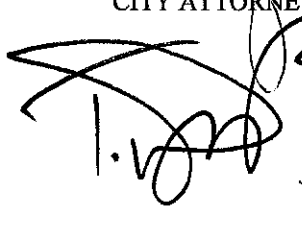
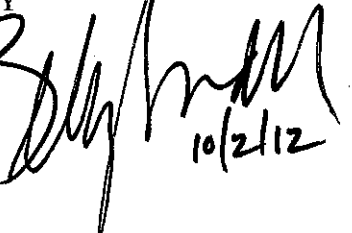
1. Only human beings, not corporations, are endowed with constitutional rights protected by the First Amendment, and
2. Money is not speech under the First Amendment, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO ON THE 2ND DAY OF OCTOBER, 2012.

APPROVED AS TO FORM


CITY CLERK


CITY ATTORNEY



10/2/12