

**RESOLUTION 2014-052**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLANA BEACH, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF EFFORTS TO OVERTURN CITIZENS UNITED**

**WHEREAS**, free and fair elections are essential to American democracy and effective self-governance; and

**WHEREAS**, in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, the United States Supreme Court held that independent spending on elections by corporations, associations or labor unions could not be limited by government regulation, a decision that allows for unlimited spending in elections; and

**WHEREAS**, in reaching its decision in *Citizen's United*, the Supreme Court interpreted the First Amendment of the Constitution to afford corporations, associations or labor unions the same free speech protection as natural persons; and

**WHEREAS**, certain members of Congress are seeking to amend the Constitution in order to reverse the *Citizens United* decision and establish that corporations, associations and labor unions are not entitled to the entirety of protections of natural persons; and

**WHEREAS**, several dozen municipalities, including New York City, Los Angeles, and San Diego, have successfully passed resolutions opposing the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Constitution in *Citizens United* and supporting Constitutional amendments.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Solana Beach has a history of demonstrating support for an orderly political forum in which individuals may express themselves effectively; placing realistic and enforceable limits on the amounts of money that may be contributed to political campaigns in municipal elections; and prohibiting contributions by organizations in order to develop a broader base of political efficacy within the community;

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**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the City Council for the City of Solana Beach, California, does resolve as follows:

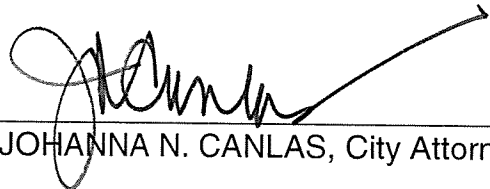
1. That the Council respectfully disagrees with the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Constitution in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* regarding the rights of corporations, associations and labor unions; and
2. That the City Council joins other cities in calling on the United States Congress to begin a process to (a) protect an individual's right to effectively express himself or herself by ensuring an orderly political forum, and (b) amend the Constitution to provide that corporations, associations, and labor unions are not entitled to the protections or "rights" of natural persons, specifically so that the expenditure of corporate money to influence the electoral process is no longer a form of constitutionally protected speech.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Solana Beach, California, held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2014, by the following vote:

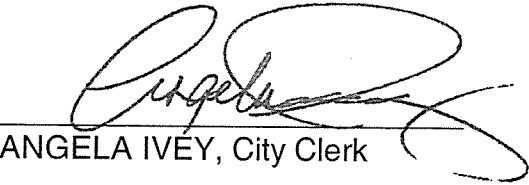
AYES: Councilmembers – Campbell, Heebner, Zito, Zahn, Nichols  
NOES: Councilmembers – None  
ABSENT: Councilmembers – None  
ABSTAIN: Councilmembers – None

  
THOMAS M. CAMPBELL, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
JOHANNA N. CANLAS, City Attorney

ATTEST:

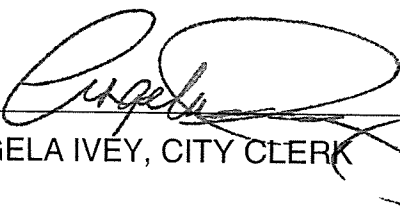
  
ANGELA IVEY, City Clerk



## CERTIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO) SS.  
CITY OF SOLANA BEACH)

I, ANGELA IVEY, City Clerk of the City of Solana Beach, California,  
DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of  
**Resolution 2014-052** *supporting of efforts to overturn Citizens United* as duly  
passed and adopted at a Regular Solana Beach City Council meeting held on  
the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2014 and the original is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

  
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ANGELA IVEY, CITY CLERK

Date of this Certification: 5/21/2014