

DELAWARE GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE HALL DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

June 10, 2013

Senator Thomas Carper United States Senate 513 Hart Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Carper,

We, the Undersigned Members of the Delaware General Assembly, call upon you to join your colleagues and pass a constitutional amendment reversing the United States Supreme Court's 5-4 ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010), which declared that corporations enjoy the First Amendment political rights of the people, and which toppled dozens of state and federal laws and two decades of judicial precedents allowing the regulation of direct corporate (for profit, not for profit, including unions) expenditures related to political campaigns.

There is no more critical foundation to our government than citizens' confidence in fair and free elections. The Citizens United decision directly undermines this confidence, and was issued in the absence of any evidence or searching inquiry to refute the fair assumption that unbridled and opaque spending in politics harms American democracy. The Citizens United decision holds that our Congress is forbidden from regulating corporate spending related to political campaigns, and undermines critical provisions of the duly enacted McCain-Feingold Act. The United States of America's elections should not be permitted to go to the highest bidder, and yet this is the risk that rises from the ashes of the Citizens United decision.

This risk must be abated. The Constitution must be amended to make clear the authority of our Congress to regulate expenditures related to political campaigns in a manner consistent not only with principles of freedom and democracy but also with verified facts and outcomes in a quickly-changing, technology-driven world.

Article V of the United States Constitution empowers the people, the states, and our Congress to use the constitutional amendment process to reverse bad Supreme Court decisions that threaten our society. Indeed, this is the only tool available to the American people to reverse bad constitutional decisions.

As Members of the Delaware General Assembly, we sharply disagree with the narrow majority decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission and call upon our United States Congress to propose and send to the states for ratification as soon as is practical a constitutional amendment that reverses this decision, and that makes clear the right of our elected representatives and the American people to be steadfast in pursuit of fair elections and democratic sovereignty.

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Very truly yours,

atherine Cloutier Catherine Cloutier State Senator

5th District

Bruce C. Ennis State Senator 14th District

Bethany Hall-Long State Senator 10th District

Belling A. Hall - Larg

Margaret Kase Kenry

Margaret Rose Henry Majority Whip State Senator, 2nd District

State Senator 3rd District

David B. McBride State Senator 13th District

Harris B. McDowell III State Senator

1st District

Karen E. Peterson State Senator 9th District

State Senator 12th District

David P. Sokola State Senator 8th District

Bryan Townsend State Senator

11th District

Michael A. Barbieri State Representative 18th District

Paul S. Baumbach State Representative 23rd District

Andria L. Bennett State Representative 32nd District

Donald A. Blakey

State Representative 34th District

Stephanie T. Bolden State Representative 2nd District

William J. Carson State Representative 28th District

Pabra J. Hoffenson

Debra J. Heffernan State Representative 6th District

Segge=

S. Quinton Johnson, IV State Representative 8th District

John 2. Mitthell -

J. Larry Mitchell, Jr. State Representative 13th District

Trey Paradee
State Representative
29th District

Darryl M. Scott State Representative 31st District

Rebecca Walker State Representative 9th District Earl & Types Tr

Earl G. Jaques, Jr. State Representative 27th District

Helene M. Keeley

Helene M. Keeley State Representative 3rd District

Michael P. Mulrooney State Representative 17th District

Charles Potter, Jr. State Representative 1st District

Melanie George Smith, Esq. State Representative 5th District

Dennis & Williams

Dennis E. Williams State Representative 10th District James Johnson State Representative 16th District

John A. Kowalko, Jr. State Representative 25th District

Edward S. Osienski State Representative 24th District

Michael Ramone State Representative 21st District

John J. Viola State Representative 26th District

Kimberly Williams State Representative 19th District

cc: Senator Christopher Coons Congressman John Carney