

RESOLUTION 1112

Citizens United

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of State College, Pennsylvania;

1. The Borough Council of State College, Pennsylvania finds and declares that large campaign contributions to political candidates allow wealthy contributors and special interest groups to exercise a disproportionate level of influence over the political process; that large campaign contributions create the potential of corruption and the appearance of corruption; that the rising costs of campaigning for political office prevent qualified citizens from running for political office; and that the interests of the public are best served by limiting campaign contributions, establishing campaign spending limits, full and timely disclosure of campaign contributions, and strong enforcement of campaign laws. Without these safeguards there is potential harm to all citizens including those residents of State College, Pennsylvania, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States of America.
2. Therefore and in addition, the Borough Council of State College, Pennsylvania expresses strong opposition to the United States Supreme Court ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission and calls upon the Congress of the United States to propose an amendment to the United States Constitution to provide that with regard to corporation campaign spending, a person means only a natural person for First Amendment protection of free speech. Such a constitutional amendment would clarify the distinction between the rights of natural persons and the rights of corporations, thereby preserving the power of Congress and the States to place limits on the ability of corporations to influence the outcome of elections through political expenditures.
3. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the Mayor and Council President of the Borough of State College, Pennsylvania, shall be transmitted to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the United States Congress elected from this State.

RESOLVED this 8th day of September, 2014.

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF STATE COLLEGE



Sharon K. Ergler
Assisant Borough Secretary



James L. Rosenberger
President of Council

EXAMINED AND APPROVED as a Resolution this 23rd day of September, 2014.


Elizabeth A. Goreham
Mayor