



City of Conway, Arkansas
Resolution No. R-13-09

A resolution urging the United States Congress to propose amendments to the United States Constitution for the states' consideration relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections and relating to the rights of corporations.

Whereas, the U.S. Bill of Rights provides certain inalienable rights to natural persons, and

Whereas, corporations are not mentioned in the U.S. Constitution, and

Whereas, corporations are legal entities that governments create, and the rights they enjoy under the U.S. Constitution have been and should be more narrowly defined than the rights that are afforded to natural persons, and

Whereas, the decision to regulate corporate financial campaign contributions is one that historically Congress and the states have been constitutionally allowed to address, and

Whereas, in 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, 130 S.Ct. 876 (U.S. 2010), ruled that Congress and the states lacked the constitutional right to ban independent corporate expenditures to political campaigns for public office, and

Whereas, the U.S. Supreme Court in the Citizens decision applies to state and local elections as well as federal elections, and

Whereas, money is property, not speech, and;

Whereas, this policy change will require that the U.S. Constitution be amended to authorize congressional or state regulation of individual and corporate financial participation in political campaigns, and

Whereas, tens of thousands of people and municipalities across the nation are joining with the Move to Amend campaign to call for an Amendment to the US Constitution to Abolish Corporate Personhood and the doctrine of Money as Speech;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That the City Council of Conway, Arkansas hereby expresses its support of the national "Move To Amend" campaign to call for an Amendment to the Constitution to Abolish Corporate Personhood and the doctrine of Money as Speech.

SECTION 2: That the City Council of Conway, Arkansas hereby requests that Arkansas legislators on State and Federal levels also support a U.S. constitutional amendment for the state's consideration that provides that money is not speech and corporations are not persons under the U.S. Constitution and that also affirms the constitutional rights of natural persons.

SECTION 3: That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Arkansas Congressional Delegation.

PASSED this 22nd day of January, 2013.

Approved:

Attest:

Mayor Tab Townsell

Michael O. Garrett
City Clerk/Treasurer