

The following excerpt from the minutes of the Brimfield, Massachusetts May 20, 2013 Annual Town Meeting is a true and complete record of the proceedings pertaining to Article 45



Robert P Sullivan
Town Clerk
Town of Brimfield, Massachusetts

ARTICLE 45:

WHEREAS, We the people adopted and ratified the United States Constitution to protect the free speech and other rights of people, not corporations;

WHEREAS, Corporations are not people but instead are entities created by the law of states and nations;

WHEREAS, for the past three decades, a divided United States Supreme Court has erroneously transformed the First Amendment into a powerful tool for corporations seeking to evade and invalidate the people's laws;

WHEREAS, this corporate misuse of the First Amendment and Constitution has reached an extreme conclusion in the United States Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission;

WHEREAS, this ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission:

- overturned longstanding precedent prohibiting corporations from spending corporate general treasury funds in our elections;
- unleashes a torrent of corporate money in our political process unmatched by any campaign expenditure totals in United States history;
- purports to invalidate state laws and even state Constitutional provisions separating corporate money from elections;
- and presents a serious and direct threat to our republican democracy;

WHEREAS, Article V of the U.S. Constitution empowers and obligates the people and states of the United States of America to use the constitutional amendment process to correct egregious decisions of the United States Supreme Court that go to the heart of our democracy and self-government; and

WHEREAS, the people and states of the United States of American have strengthened the nation and preserved liberty and equality for all by amendment process throughout our history, including in seven of the ten decades of the 20th Century, to reverse seven erroneous Supreme Court decisions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE RESIDENTS OF BRIMFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS CALL UPON THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS AND SEND TO THE STATES FOR RATIFICATION A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REVERSE CITIZEN UNITED V. FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION TO RESTORE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS AND FAIR ELECTIONS TO THE PEOPLE. (By Petition)

Point of order from floor asking for quorum count. Moderator asked voters to raise voting cards and counted 58 voters in attendance. Town bylaw requires a minimum of 50 voters.

>Motion made by the petitioner (Dale Labonte) and seconded: *"Move to approve the Article as written"*

Motion to approve passed by show of voting cards. (12:15 AM)