

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO AMEND THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TO ABOLISH CORPORATE PERSONHOOD AND ABOLISH THE DOCTRINE OF MONEY AS SPEECH.

WHEREAS, the protections afforded by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution to the people of our nation are fundamental to our democracy and were designed to protect the free speech rights of the people of individual human beings (natural persons) – and not corporations; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court has seemingly extended to corporations some of the provisions which the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment established for natural human beings, yet historically corporations were created as artificial entities that were subordinate to special regulations pertaining to their special character and goals, and

WHEREAS, while many corporations provide important contributions to our society, not all corporations are required by law to put profit ahead of any other concern and can exist simultaneously in many nations, and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Supreme Court’s 2010 ruling in Citizens Unites vs. the Federal Election Commissions threatens our democracy by rolling back limits on corporate spending in electoral campaigns and drowning the out the voices of “We the People”; and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of people and municipalities across the nation are joining with the “Move to Amend” campaign and to call for an amendment to the United States 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 LORAIN, OHIO:

SECTION I. That Lorain City Council calls for freeing democracy from corporate control by calling upon our legislatures at the state and federal levels to join with the thousands of citizens, grassroots organizations and local governments across the country in the movement to amend our United States Constitution to establish that money is not speech and the regulation of political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech and (b) only human beings, not corporations, are entitled to constitutional rights.

SECTION II. That Lorain City Council encourages other communities and jurisdictions to join with us in this action by passing similar resolutions encouraging our state and federal representative to take action to advance this effort.

SECTION III: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning the passage of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public and in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION IV. That this resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: _____, 2015

President of Council

Attest: _____, 2015

Clerk

Mayor