



Wilkes-Barre, Pa. May 24, 2012

Resolution No. R0065-12

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:

Resolved, City Council of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania calls upon the United States Congress to pass and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to reverse *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*; and to clarify that:

Corporations are not entitled to the Constitutional protections or "rights" of natural persons; and

"Money is not speech, and therefore regulating election-related spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech." and

Resolved, that we instruct the City and State Representatives of Wilkes-Barre to make the need and support for a constitutional amendment known to our state's Congressional delegation, and to the Congress at large and to ask for their position on such and amendment.


Be It Resolved, that the voters of Wilkes-Barre should have the opportunity on the November 2012 ballot to instruct our congressional representative(s) as direct agents of the people, to do everything within their delegated authority to propose; (and our state legislators to ratify); and amendment to the United States Constitution that would overturn the decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*.

That amendment should make clear that Corporations are not entitled to the Constitutional protections or "rights" of natural persons (and/or) that money is not speech, and therefore that regulating election-related spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech, and Congress and the States may place limits on election contributions and expenditures;

Therefore the Wilkes-Barre City Council hereby refers the following question to be presented to (jurisdiction) voters on the November 2012 ballot:

Do you want to instruct (jurisdiction's) congressional representatives to propose, and (jurisdiction's) state legislators to ratify, and amendment to the United States Constitution to clarify that corporations are not entitled to the constitutional rights of natural people, and to all limits on political campaign spending?

The election official shall tally the results. If a majority of voters support the question the election official shall send a written notice to (jurisdiction's congressional delegation) on the twenty-first of January of each year until Congress has proposed an amendment as provided for in Article V of the United States Constitution to address these issues informing them of the instructions from their constituents.

Submitted by 

ROLL CALL		
YEAS	RESOLUTIONS	NAYS
✓ _____	BROWN	_____
✓ _____	GEORGE	_____
✓ _____	LAVELLE	_____
_____	BARRETT (VICE CHAIRPERSON)	✓ _____
✓ _____	MERRITT (CHAIRPERSON)	_____

Seconded by  City Clerk