

# CITY OF WORCESTER

**WHEREAS:** The Worcester City Council is committed to ensuring the rights of all individual Worcester Voters and believes that those participating Worcester voters, along with individual voters across America, should be the only decision makers in our election process; and

**WHEREAS:** The recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* presents a serious and direct threat to the role and influence of individual voters in Worcester and across America...

- Overturning longstanding precedent prohibiting corporations from spending corporate general treasury funds in our elections;
- Unleashing a torrent of corporate money in our political process unmatched by any campaign expenditure totals in United States history; and
- Invalidating state laws in Massachusetts and even state Constitutional provisions separating corporate money from elections; and

**Whereas:** The words people, person, or citizen as used in the United States Constitution do not include corporations, limited liability companies or other corporate entities established by the laws of any State, the United States, or any foreign state, and such corporate entities are subject to such regulation as the people through their elected State and Federal representatives deem reasonable"; and

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

**WHEREAS:** Corporations are not people with constitutional rights, but instead are entities created by the law of states and nations, rightfully subservient to people and our governments; and

**WHEREAS:** Article V of the United States Constitution empowers and obligates the people and states of the United States of America to use the constitutional amendment process to correct those egregiously wrong decisions of the United States Supreme Court that go to the heart of our democracy and republican self--government; and

**WHEREAS:** The people and states of the United States of America have strengthened the nation and preserved liberty and equality for all by using the amendment process throughout our history, including in seven of the ten decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century; and, **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the City Council of the City of Worcester City Council does hereby urge the U.S. Congress to protect the rights of Worcester voters, and individual voters across America by adopting House Resolution 88, proposed by U.S. Representative James McGovern, and begin efforts through the constitutional amendment process to reverse *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* and ensure that voters in Worcester and across America remain the sole decision makers in our election process.

**In City Council**

**May 15, 2012**

**Resolution adopted by a yea and nay vote of Eleven Yeas and No Nays.**



**David J. Rushford  
City Clerk**

**A Copy. Attest:**

**Introduced in City Council by Mayor Joseph M. Petty, Councilor William J. Eddy, Councilor Joseph C. O'Brien, Councilor Kathleen M. Toomey, Councilor George J. Russell, Councilor Michael J. Germain, Councilor Sarai Rivera, Councilor Tony Economou, Councilor Philip P. Palmieri, Councilor Frederick C. Rushton, and Councilor Konstantina B. Lukes**