

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

TOWN COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 12-29

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR: URGING THE MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION TO STATE THAT CORPORATIONS ARE NOT HUMAN BEINGS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Fairfield, acting as the municipal officers as follows:

WHEREAS, government of, by, and for The People has long been a fundamental American value, and The People's fundamental and inalienable right to self-govern, and thereby secure rights to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness is guaranteed in the United States Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, and;

WHEREAS, free and fair elections are essential to democracy and effective self governance, and;

WHEREAS, persons are rightfully recognized as human beings whose essential needs include clean air, clean water, safe and secure food, and;

WHEREAS, corporations exist only by the express permission of The People, and;

WHEREAS, corporations can exist in perpetuity, can exist simultaneously in many nations at once, need only profit for survival, and exist solely through the legal charter imposed by the government of The People, and;

WHEREAS, in addition to these advantages, the great wealth of large corporations allows them to wield coercive force of law to overpower human beings and communities, thus denying The People's exercise of our Constitutional rights, and;

WHEREAS, corporations are not mentioned in the Constitution, and The People have never granted constitutional rights to corporations, nor have We decreed that corporations have authority that exceeds the authority of The People of the United States, and;

WHEREAS, interpretation of the Constitution by appointed Supreme Court justices to include corporations in the terms 'persons' has denied The People's exercise of self-governance by endowing corporations with Constitutional protections intended for The People, and;

WHEREAS, the judicial bestowal of civil and political rights upon corporations usurps basic human and Constitutional rights guaranteed to only human persons, and;

WHEREAS, corporations are not and have never been human beings, and therefore are rightfully subservient to human beings and governments as our legal creations, and;

WHEREAS, large corporations' profits and survival are often in direct conflict with the essential needs and rights of human beings, and;

WHEREAS, the recent Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission Supreme Court decision that rolled back the legal limits on corporate spending in the electoral process creates an unequal playing field and allows unlimited corporate spending to influence elections, candidate selection, policy decisions and sway votes, and forces elected officials to divert their attention from The Peoples' business, or even vote against the interest of their human constituents, in order to raise competitive campaign funds for their own re-election, and;

WHEREAS, large corporations often use America's mass media through super political action committees to anonymously express their political agenda using exaggerations or falsehoods which forces citizens to toil to discern the truth behind election campaigning, and;

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of people and municipalities across the nation are joining together to call for an Amendment to the United States Constitution to Abolish Corporate Personhood;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

Town Council:

THAT the Town Council of Fairfield, Maine hereby urges the Maine State Legislature and United States Congress to amend the United States Constitution to clearly state that corporations are not human beings and do not have the same rights as citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, should it pass by a majority vote at a Council Meeting, a copy of this vote of non-binding statement be forwarded immediately to United States President Barack Obama, congressional representatives, and the leadership of the Maine legislature.

Read and Adopted by the Town Council on April 11, 2012.

Tracey L. Stevens, Town Clerk