

1 CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

2 RESOLUTION NO. 2012-11

3 INTRODUCED BY:

4
5 Councilor Bushee
6 Councilor Calvert

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8
9
10 A RESOLUTION

11 JOINING THE *MOVE TO AMEND* CAMPAIGN AND SUPPORTING THE CALL FOR AN
12 AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TO ABOLISH CORPORATE
13 PERSONHOOD.

14
15 WHEREAS, *Move to Amend* is a coalition supported by hundreds of organizations and tens
16 of thousands of individuals dedicated to ending the illegitimate legal doctrines that prevent the
17 American people from governing themselves; and

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

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

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

1 **WHEREAS**, corporations are entirely human-made legal fictions created by express
2 permission of We The People and our government; and

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

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

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

12 **WHEREAS**, interpretation of the US Constitution by appointed Supreme Court justices to
13 include corporations in the term 'persons' has long denied We The Peoples' exercise of self-
14 governance by endowing corporations with Constitutional protections intended for We The People;
15 and

16 **WHEREAS**, the illegitimate judicial bestowal of civil and political rights upon corporations
17 usurps basic human and Constitutional rights guaranteed to human persons, and also empowers
18 corporations to sue municipal and state governments for adopting laws that violate 'corporate rights'
19 even when those laws serve to protect and defend the rights of human persons and communities; and

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

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

24 **WHEREAS**, the recent *Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission* Supreme Court
25 decision that rolled back the legal limits on corporate spending in the electoral process creates an

1 unequal playing field and allows unlimited corporate spending to influence elections, candidate
2 selection, policy decisions and sway votes, and forces elected officials to divert their attention from
3 The Peoples' business, or even vote against the interest of their human constituents, in order to ensure
4 competitive campaign funds for their own re-election; and

5 **WHEREAS**, large corporations own most of America's mass media and use that media as a
6 megaphone to express loudly their political agenda and to convince Americans that their primary role
7 is that of consumers, rather than sovereign citizens with rights and responsibilities within our
8 democracy, and this forces citizens to toil to discern the truth behind headlines and election
9 campaigning; and

10 **WHEREAS**, tens of thousands of people and municipalities across the nation are joining
11 with the *Move to Amend* campaign to call for an Amendment to the US Constitution to Abolish
12 Corporate Personhood.

13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
14 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the City of Santa Fe hereby joins and supports the *Move to Amend*
15 campaign to call for an amendment to the United States Constitution to abolish corporate personhood.

16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City of Santa Fe calls on our Congressional and
17 Legislative delegations and County Commissioners to join the tens of thousands of citizens,
18 grassroots organizations and local governments across the country in the *Move to Amend* campaign to
19 call for an Amendment to the Constitution to Abolish Corporate Personhood and return our
20 democracy, our elections, our communities back to America's human persons and to thus reclaim our
21 sovereign right to self-governance.

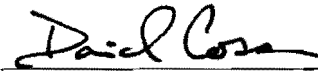
22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City of Santa Fe calls on other communities and
23 jurisdictions to join with us in this action by passing similar resolutions.

24 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City of Santa Fe supports education to increase
25 public awareness of the threats to our democracy posed by Corporate Personhood, and encourages

1 lively discussion to build understanding and consensus to take appropriate community and municipal
2 actions to democratically respond to these threats.

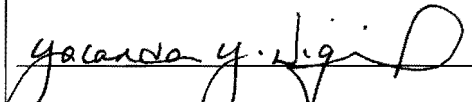
3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this
4 resolution to the *Move to Amend* Coalition, Santa Fe's Federal Congressional Delegation, State
5 Legislative Delegation and the Board of County Commissioners.

6 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 11th day of January, 2012.

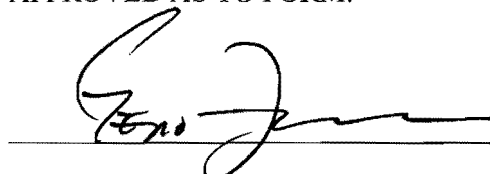
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9 DAVID COSS, MAYOR

10 ATTEST:

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12 
13 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

14 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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17 GENO ZAMORA, CITY ATTORNEY