

5/3/2012

40-R-12

A RESOLUTION

**The City of Evanston's Opposition to the
U.S. Supreme Court's Conclusion in Citizens United v. FEC
relating to Constitutional Rights for Corporate Entities**

WHEREAS, in 2010, the United States Supreme Court issued its decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, 558 U.S. 50, 130 S.Ct. 876 (2010), holding that governmental restrictions on corporate and union expenditures on political campaigns violated the First Amendment's guarantees of free speech, and concluded that corporations and special interest groups have the same protections for political speech as natural persons; and

WHEREAS, business entities such as corporations, limited liability companies, and other entities established by the laws of the United States, any State, or a foreign state, are subject to regulation by the people through federal, state, or local law; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United, in effect, limits the ability of the U.S. Congress and state governments to enact campaign finance reform and to regulate corporate and special interest political activity through campaign expenditures and disclosures; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress and state governments should be able to regulate corporate and special interest expenditures in the electoral process and require full disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THAT:

SECTION 1: The Evanston City Council supports amending the U.S. Constitution to permit the U.S. Congress and state governments to regulate corporate and special interest group expenditures in the electoral process.

SECTION 2: The Evanston City Council supports efforts to effectively overturn the United States Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United vs. Federal Election Commission, including the constitutional amendment sponsored by U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (IL).

SECTION 3: This Resolution 40-R-12 shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.


Elizabeth B. Tisdahl, Mayor

Attest:


Rodney Greene, City Clerk

Adopted: May 14, 2012