

Submitted by: Assembly Vice-Chair Croft
and Assembly Members
Petersen and Quinn-Davidson
Reviewed by: Assembly Counsel's Office
For reading: December 18, 2018

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR No. 2018-391**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY
SUPPORTING AND CALLING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE UNITED STATES TO ADDRESS ISSUES THAT RESULTED FROM
COURT DECISIONS SUCH AS THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT'S
DECISION IN *CITIZENS UNITED v. FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION*.**

WHEREAS the heart of democracy is the right of human beings to govern themselves, and the United States is the first and foremost democracy since the days of ancient Greece; and

WHEREAS the founding documents of the United States, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, recognize that human beings have certain inalienable rights; and

WHEREAS the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution do not mention or grant any rights to corporations or to any artificial entities other than the United States of America and its constituent States; and

WHEREAS corporations and other artificial entities are not and never have been human beings, and are only entitled to the legal powers and protections that the People grant to them; and

WHEREAS recent judicial decisions, including the United States Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 130 S.Ct. 876, 558 U.S. 310 (2010), have held that corporations and other artificial entities are "persons" under the United States Constitution with a constitutional right to spend as much money as they wish on political speech, thereby greatly expanding the power of corporations and other artificial entities to influence elections and otherwise undermine the power of the People to govern themselves; and

WHEREAS when freedom of speech is equated with freedom to spend money, the free speech of 99 percent of the People is overwhelmed by the messages of the few who are able to spend millions of dollars to influence the political process; and

WHEREAS respected national political polls show that large majorities of the People from all parts of the political spectrum believe that corporations and other artificial entities have too much power in our political system; and

WHEREAS we the People are supreme, and have the power to overrule the Supreme Court through a constitutional amendment; and

1 **WHEREAS** over 800 municipalities and local governments, and 19 state
2 governments, have already passed resolutions calling for an amendment to the United
3 States Constitution to address the types of issues identified above;

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5 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Anchorage Assembly
6 supports, and calls for, an amendment to the United States Constitution, establishing that:

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8 Section 1. The United States Constitution does not create or grant or protect
9 any constitutional rights for corporations or other artificial entities; and

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11 Section 2. That money is not speech, and that the government has the right to
12 enact statutes and regulations governing the expenditure of money to influence elections
13 and political decision making, to the end that all voices and opinions of the People can be
14 expressed and heard.

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16 The Municipal Clerk is directed to deliver copies of this resolution to the
17 Anchorage delegation to the Alaska Legislature and to Alaska's delegation to the United
18 States Congress.

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20 **PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Anchorage Assembly this ____ day of
21 _____, 20____.

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25 _____
Chair

26 **ATTEST:**

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30 _____
31 Municipal Clerk
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