

MTA

**City of Milwaukee Judiciary & Legislative Committee  
City of Milwaukee Resolution Statement 10/28/2013**

**Chairman Hamilton and Committee Members:**

We thank you and commend you for considering this resolution for a City referendum on money out of politics. Voting for a referendum by the people shows your support for direct democracy. Agreeing with the subject matter shows that you are politicians that believe that money should not be so powerful as it is now in politics. These are admirable positions to take.

Move to Amend advocates this wording in referenda throughout the country as a mechanism for restoring democracy locally and nationally.

The first subject of the referendum deals with

**FREE SPEECH**

We want to restore the 1st Amendment\* to its original meaning. The word money is not in the 1st Amendment. We conclude, therefore, that the founders, by not including money in this Amendment, did not consider money as speech, OR related to our inherent freedoms as people. Because the 1st Amendment is all about people's freedoms: of religion, the press, to petition the government for redress of grievances, freedom of assembly, and speech. There is no mention, in it, of money.

The 1st Amendment's interpretation has been changed by the U.S. Supreme Court to include money.

The *Citizens United Decision* states that the 1st Amendment is about freedom to spend money without limits politically, and about spending to support or condemn people anonymously. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Some have said they don't want to change the meaning of the 1st Amendment, and so are *against* proposals like ours. This is not true. It was the Supreme Court that changed the meaning of the 1st Amendment. No one's free speech will be abridged by this proposal for our 28th US Constitutional Amendment. Corporations will retain free speech, because corporations cannot have free speech without a spokes**person**, because a corporation does not have a voice or a mouth. All persons will retain their 1st Amendment free speech rights. All people, including CEO's and shareholders of corporations, will remain free to say that they speak for any corporation or other organization, as not a single individual human right shall be abridged by our proposed 28th Amendment.

The second issue in the referendum's Amendment is

**CORPORATE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS**

Because the word corporation exists **nowhere** in Constitution, it logically follows that Constitutional rights were not written for them.

As with speech, all natural persons will continue to have all their Constitutional rights under Move to Amend's 28th Amendment.

Corporations, unions, non-profits, and other artificial entities, all legally created by statute by and for We the People, for our convenience, are not people, but are our ***inventions, privileged*** to exist at our pleasure. They have privileges that human beings do not have, and that We the People have bestowed upon them so that they may better function. Laws and privileges granted to them should be covered by statutory and more specific laws, not by the Constitution or its Amendments, which were always clearly intended for the People.

We are having tremendous problems in governance at this time, and one reason is that corporations and other artificial entities not only have Constitutional rights, but these artificial entities also have special privileges not granted to We the People, who invented them. They therefore wield more power than We the People who created them, and are thereby threatening our very form of government.

We must all stand together to support changes that will reverse this process. 16 states have asked for a US Constitutional Amendment thus far, over 500 referenda have been passed throughout the United States, and 23 passed so far in the State of Wisconsin, with many more to come in the April elections, including Wauwatosa, Whitefish Bay, and Shorewood, and probably the City of Waukesha.. In the Republican Presidential Primary in 2012, our own City of West Allis passed a similar referendum by 70%, proving this is not only a liberal issue, but one that we all care about.

It is a unifying issue.

Our Milwaukee County Board passed it by a supermajority (14:4) for the November 2012 presidential ballot, but the County Executive vetoed it (at a time when the Board could not convene again in time to override it, and allow it to be on the November 2012 ballot).

Our unique and wonderful system of democracy is deeply threatened by the Citizens United Decision, and we all know it. Getting a U.S. Constitutional amendment is an arduous and gargantuan undertaking, but we must do it, and do it ***ourselves***. We the People MUST save our democracy! For our own sakes, for our children and grandchildren, for the sake of peace, and for the world itself. You can help us do that!

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**\*The 1st Amendment**

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

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