MOTION TO AMEND (Simple Amendment)

JUDICIARY AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 28, 2013 AGENDA ITEM 3
File Number: 130472 VERSION: SUBSTITUTE 1

SPONSOR(S): ALD. ZIELINSKI, KOVAC, PEREZ AND HAMILTON TITLE: Substitute resolution relating to amending the U.S. Constitution to permit the U.S. Congress and state and local legislatures to limit corporate influence and expenditures in public elections, and urging the Wisconsin Legislature and Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors to submit the question to voters.

MOTION BY ALD. DAVIS

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I move to amend File Number 130472 by amending the first "Resolved Clause" with the addition of the phrase "and that permissible contributions and expenditures shall be publically disclosed" to read:

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the U.S. Congress is urged to propose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution, for ratification by the states, reversing the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* and establishing principles in the U.S. Constitution that only human beings--not corporations, unions, nonprofit organizations, or similar associations--are endowed with constitutional rights, [[and]] that limiting political contributions and spending is not equivalent to restricting political speech >> and that permissible contributions and expenditures shall be publically disclosed <<; and, be it

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Background: At least one of the proposals in Congress for a constitutional amendment to reverse *Citizens United* would include provisions specifically requiring public disclosure. U.S. Representative Mark Pocan, representing Wisconsin's 2nd Congressional District, is a cosponsor of House Joint Resolution (HJR) 29 proposing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution including, among other things, the following: "Federal, State and local government shall require that any permissible contributions and expenditures be publicly disclosed."