

28TH BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES CITY OF STAMFORD

President
RANDALL M. SKIGEN
Clerk of the Board
ANNIE M. SUMMERVILLE

Majority Leader
ELAINE MITCHELL
Minority Leader
ROBERT "GABE" DELUCA

RESOLUTION NO. 3529 (Formerly Resolution No. 3492) SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE PASSAGE OF A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO OVERTURN CITIZENS UNITED VS. FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION AND BUCKLEY V. VALEO

WHEREAS, the 2010 decision of the United States Supreme Court in Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission rolled back legal restrictions on corporate spending in the electoral process, allowing unlimited corporate spending in electoral campaigns, ballot questions and referendum movements; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in Buckley v. Valeo established a principle, not enumerated in the Constitution, that money is a form of speech; and

WHEREAS, the Citizens United decision has led to a flood of money from individuals, corporations and unions being used for political purposes, and

WHEREAS, Super Political Action Committees ("Super PACs") now enjoy unlimited spending from wealthy individuals and corporations, and

WHEREAS, outside spending by Super PACs, corporations, special interest groups, and others totaled over \$900 M or 2.5 times as much as spent during the same period in 2008 and six (6) times as much as in 2004, and

WHEREAS, money affects the quality and quantity of speech and is NOT, in itself, speech; and allowing corporations with great wealth to use it as speech effectively drowns out the protected free speech of the People in our diverse society; and

WHEREAS, the Citizens United decision supersedes state and local efforts to regulate corporate activity in their elections; and

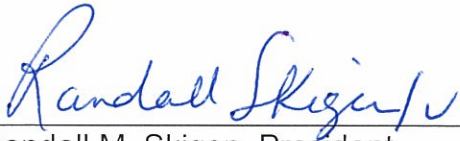
WHEREAS, there is currently a groundswell of support around the nation to have Congress introduce an amendment to the Constitution stating that inalienable rights belong to human beings only, and that money is not a form of protected free speech under the First Amendment and can be regulated in political campaigns; and

WHEREAS, as of May 2012 over 160 municipalities and six states have either passed or currently have bills/resolutions in progress; and

WHEREAS, in order for Connecticut Congressional representatives to act, they must hear a resounding voice from their constituents and the City of Stamford Board of Representatives are the elected representatives of the City of Stamford, the 4th largest city in the State of Connecticut, with a population of over 120,000.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the 28th Board of Representatives goes on official record supporting a Constitutional Amendment and other legislative actions that will overturn Supreme Court decisions such as Buckley and Citizens United that together have established the principles that money is a form of speech and that corporations are a form of person and urges the State Legislature and Federal government to enact resolutions, legislation and constitutional amendments to overturn these decisions.

This resolution was approved by a machine vote of 26-5-5 at the Regular Meeting of the 28th Board of Representatives held on Monday, July 9, 2012.



Randall M. Skigen, President



Annie M. Summerville, Clerk

- c: Mayor Michael Pavia
T. Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare
Donna Loglisci, Town & City Clerk
Ernie Orgera, Director of Operations
Michael Handler, Director of Administration
Joseph Capalbo, Esq., Director of Legal Affairs