

The full resolution we are asking the municipality to pass is shown here--and is consistent with the truncated language shown on the front of this petition.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION
By the City of Manitowoc Electors
Supporting a Constitutional Amendment

Whereas, government of, by, and for the people has long been a cherished American value, and;

Whereas, free and fair elections are essential to democracy and effective self-governance, and;

Whereas, corporations are not and never have been human beings or persons, and therefore are rightfully subservient to human beings and governments as our legal creations, and rightly are provided by the states ONLY privileges, and;

Whereas, interpretation of the U.S. Constitution by appointed Supreme Court Justices to include corporations in the term "persons" has long denied We the People's exercise of self-governance by endowing corporations with Constitutional protections intended by the Framers for ONLY We the People, and;

Whereas, in 1976 in the ruling on Buckley v. Valeo the untenable decision of the Supreme Court changed the course of American elections and established the doctrine that spending money to influence elections is a form of speech, and;

Whereas, on January 10, 2010, in Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commissions, the Supreme Court overturned a century of precedence by ruling that corporate spending on elections cannot be limited under the First Amendment, now therefore

Resolved, that "We the People" of the City of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, seek to reclaim democracy from the expansion of corporate personhood rights and the corrupting influence of unregulated political contributions and spending. We stand with communities across the country to support passage of an amendment to the United States Constitution stating:

- 1. Only human beings--not corporations, unions, nonprofits or similar associations--are endowed with constitutional rights, and**
- 2. Money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech.**

Be it Further Resolved, that the City of Manitowoc Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to our state and federal representatives with instructions to enact resolutions and legislation to advance this effort.