

Bill as Introduced

SB 307 - AS INTRODUCED

2014 SESSION

14-2834
06/10

SENATE BILL

307

AN ACT establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.

SPONSORS: Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Larsen, Dist 15; Rep. Cushing, Rock 21; Rep. Perry, Straf 3

COMMITTEE: Rules, Enrolled Bills and Internal Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to review constitutional amendments regarding the Citizens United decision and related cases that have been introduced in the United States Congress and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through~~].
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen

AN ACT establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to review all proposed language and
2 amendments to overturn the Citizens United ruling and related cases by the United States Supreme
3 Court.

4 2 Membership and Compensation.

5 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

6 (a) Two members of the senate, one appointed by the president of the senate and one
7 appointed by the senate democratic leader.

8 (b) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the
9 house of representatives.

10 II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to
11 the duties of the committee.

12 3 Duties. Recognizing the need for a constitutional amendment to overturn the Citizens United
13 ruling and related cases, the committee shall:

14 I. Examine the impact of the Citizens United ruling.

15 II. Examine the different approaches and language being proposed for a constitutional
16 amendment.

17 III. Examine short term solutions to issues raised by the ruling, such as requiring disclosure
18 of donors and shareholder approval of corporate election contributions.

19 IV. Make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which
20 approaches, if any, the delegation should support.

21 4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the committee shall elect a chairperson from among
22 the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate member.
23 The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section.
24 Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

25 5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
26 legislation or resolution to the New Hampshire congressional delegation, the president of the senate,
27 the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the
28 state library on or before November 1, 2014.

29 6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

SB 307 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

03/27/14 0934s

2014 SESSION

14-2834

06/10

SENATE BILL **307**

AN ACT establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.

SPONSORS: Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Larsen, Dist 15; Rep. Cushing, Rock 21; Rep. Perry, Straf 3

COMMITTEE: Rules, Enrolled Bills and Internal Affairs

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to review constitutional amendments regarding the Citizens United decision and related cases that have been introduced in the United States Supreme Court.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in *bold italics*.
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen

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Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to review all proposed language and
2 amendments to the Citizens United ruling and related cases by the United States Supreme Court.

3 2 Membership and Compensation.

4 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

5 (a) Two members of the senate, one appointed by the president of the senate and one
6 appointed by the senate minority leader.

7 (b) Two members of the house of representatives, one of whom shall be appointed by the
8 speaker of the house of representatives, and one of whom shall be appointed by the house minority
9 leader.

10 II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to
11 the duties of the committee.

12 3 Duties. Recognizing the need to study the Citizens United ruling and related cases, and
13 ensure protection of the First Amendment, the committee shall:

14 I. Examine the impact of the Citizens United ruling.

15 II. Examine the different approaches and language being proposed for a constitutional
16 amendment.

17 III. Examine short term solutions to issues raised by the ruling.

18 4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the committee shall elect a chairperson from among
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20 The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section.
21 Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

22 5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
23 legislation or resolution to the New Hampshire congressional delegation, the president of the senate,
24 the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the
25 state library on or before November 28, 2014.

26 6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Amendments



Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist. 21
February 21, 2014
2014-0702s
06/01

Amendment to SB 307

1 Amend paragraph I as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3

I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

4

(a) Two members of the senate, one appointed by the president of the senate and one appointed by the senate minority leader.

5

6

(b) Three members of the house of representatives, 2 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, and one appointed by the house minority leader.

7

Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist. 21
Sen. Prescott, Dist. 23
Sen. Kelly, Dist. 10
March 6, 2014
2014-0898s
06/01

Amendment to SB 307

1 Amend paragraph I as inserted by section 2 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

4 (a) Two members of the senate, one appointed by the president of the senate and one
5 appointed by the senate minority leader.

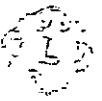
6 (b) Two members of the house of representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the
7 house of representatives, and one appointed by the house minority leader.

8

9 Amend the bill by replacing section 5 with the following:

10

11 5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
12 legislation or resolution to the New Hampshire congressional delegation, the president of the senate,
13 the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the
14 state library on or before November 28, 2014.



Amendment to SB 307

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

2

3 1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to review all proposed language and
4 amendments to the Citizens United ruling and related cases by the United States Supreme Court.

5 2 Membership and Compensation.

6 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

7 (a) Two members of the senate, one appointed by the president of the senate and one
8 appointed by the senate minority leader.

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10 speaker of the house of representatives, and one of whom shall be appointed by the house minority
11 leader.

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19 III. Examine short term solutions to issues raised by the ruling.

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22 The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section.
23 Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

24 5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
25 legislation or resolution to the New Hampshire congressional delegation, the president of the senate,
26 the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the
27 state library on or before November 28, 2014.

28 6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.



2014-0934s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to review constitutional amendments regarding the Citizens United decision and related cases that have been introduced in the United States Supreme Court.

Committee Minutes

**SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE
RULES, ENROLLED BILLS & INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Senator Russell Prescott Chairman
 Senator Peter Bragdon V Chairman
 Senator Jeb Bradley
 Senator Molly Kelly
 Senator Martha Fuller Clark

For Use by Senate Clerk's Office ONLY	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bill Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	Docket
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calendar
Proof: <input type="checkbox"/>	Calendar <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Status

Date: February 6, 2014

HEARINGS

Wednesday

2/19/2014

RULES, ENROLLED BILLS & INTERNAL AFFAIRS

SH 103

10:30 AM

(Name of Committee)

(Place)

(Time)

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

10:30 AM	SB307	establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.
10:45 AM	SB314	establishing an independent legislative redistricting commission.
11:00 AM	CACR19	relating to dedicated funds. Providing that dedicated funds shall be used solely for the purpose of the fund.
11:15 AM	CACR17	relating to natural rights. Providing that discrimination based on sexual orientation is prohibited.

Sponsors:

SB307

Sen. Martha Fuller Clark
 Rep. Robert Perry

Sen. David Watters

Sen. Sylvia Larsen

Rep. Robert Cushing

SB314

Sen. David Pierce
 Sen. Bette Lasky

Sen. Peggy Gilmour
 Sen. David Watters

Sen. Martha Fuller Clark
 Sen. Jeff Woodburn

Sen. Molly Kelly
 Rep. Gary Richardson

CACR19

Sen. Martha Fuller Clark
 Sen. David Watters

Rep. Michael Cahill
 Rep. Thomas Buco

Sen. Molly Kelly

Sen. David Pierce

CACR17

Sen. David Pierce
 Sen. Bette Lasky
 Rep. Laurie Harding

Sen. Martha Fuller Clark
 Sen. David Watters
 Rep. Marjorie Smith

Sen. Peggy Gilmour
 Sen. Jeff Woodburn
 Rep. Gary Richardson

Sen. Molly Kelly
 Rep. Edward Butler

AMENDED
SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE
RULES, ENROLLED BILLS & INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Printed: 02/26/2014 at 3:06 pm

Senator Russell Prescott Chairman
 Senator Peter Bragdon V Chairman
 Senator Jeb Bradley
 Senator Molly Kelly
 Senator Martha Fuller Clark

For Use by Senate Clerk's Office ONLY	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bill Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	Docket
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calendar
Proof: <input type="checkbox"/>	Calendar <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Status

Date: February 26, 2014

HEARINGS

Tuesday

3/4/2014

RULES, ENROLLED BILLS & INTERNAL AFFAIRS

SH 100

1:00 PM

(Name of Committee)

(Place)

(Time)

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

1:00 PM	SB314	establishing an independent legislative redistricting commission.
1:15 PM	CACR17	relating to natural rights. Providing that discrimination based on sexual orientation is prohibited.
1:30 PM	CACR19	relating to dedicated funds. Providing that dedicated funds shall be used solely for the purpose of the fund.
1:45 PM	SB307	establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.

Sponsors:

SB314

Sen. David Pierce	Sen. Peggy Gilmour	Sen. Martha Fuller Clark	Sen. Molly Kelly
Sen. Bette Lasky	Sen. David Watters	Sen. Jeff Woodburn	Rep. Gary Richardson

CACR17

Sen. David Pierce	Sen. Martha Fuller Clark	Sen. Peggy Gilmour	Sen. Molly Kelly
Sen. Bette Lasky	Sen. David Watters	Sen. Jeff Woodburn	Rep. Edward Butler
Rep. Laurie Harding	Rep. Marjorie Smith	Rep. Gary Richardson	

CACR19

Sen. Martha Fuller Clark	Rep. Michael Cahill	Sen. Molly Kelly	Sen. David Pierce
Sen. David Watters	Rep. Thomas Buco		

SB307

Sen. Martha Fuller Clark	Sen. David Watters	Sen. Sylvia Larsen	Rep. Robert Cushing
Rep. Robert Perry			

Jennifer Horgan 271-3091

Sen. Russell Prescott
Chairman

**SENATE
RULES, ENROLLED BILLS AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE**

Jennifer Horgan, Legislative Aide

**SB 307 – establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments
to the United States Constitution.**

Hearing Date: 03/05/2014

Time Opened: 2:14 PM

Time Closed: 3:06 PM

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Prescott, Kelly, Clark

Members of the Committee Absent: Senators Bragdon and Bradley

Bill Analysis: This bill establishes a committee to review constitutional amendments regarding the Citizens United decision and related cases that have been introduced in the United States Congress and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation.

Sponsors: Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Larsen, Dist 15; Rep. Cushing, Rock 21; Rep. Perry, Straf 3

Who supports the bill: Senator Fuller Clark; Representative Bob Perry; Representative Cushing; Rob Werner (Americans for Campaign Reform); Melody Zahn Russell; Carol Croteau; Anthony Read; Lester Cuff; Abraham Kenny; Andrew Weir; Carolyn Weir; Harlon Chensey; Chris Hansen; Michele Hansen; Irene Grand; Michelle Russell; Corianne Dodge; Raymond Lanise; Babara Cacberean; Peter Vandermazk; Sandy Woodcock; Kat McGhee; Pamela Charen; Pam Martin; Katherine Hillier; Mary Hazelton; Kate Epsen; Gail Lynch; Arnie Alpert (AFSC); Addy Simwerayn (AFSC); Liz Tentarelli; Olivia Zink (Coalition for Open Democracy); Christine Hobby; George Menos; Mary Menos; Harlan Cheney; Kenneth McKenzie; John Friede; Ellen Read; Pat Kerckes; Doreen Borenl George Blaisdell; Joseph Bagshaw (We-the-People Mt. Washington Valley); Barbara Gregg; John Raby; John Gregg; Peter Thompson; Dick Pollock (We-the-People Mt. Washington Valley); William Dowey; Peter Bearse; Nancy Dowey; Peter White; Christine Cummingham; Joanne Devlin; Lynn Chong

Who opposes the bill: David Bates

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Fuller Clark

- Discussed the concerns citizens have regarding a small minority group funding the vast majority of campaigns. Explained that numerous states have supported the overturn of Citizens United.
- This committee will look at potential constitutional amendments regarding Citizens United.
- There has been a large grassroots effort for this movement from both parties to stand against big money in politics.

Representative Bob Perry (provided written testimony)

- Raised some concerns about the lack of qualifying language of the bill analysis.
- The Citizens United was a large misjudgment and the 2012 election holds the record for being the most expensive in history.
- This movement towards exorbitant funding for campaigns will prevent good candidates from running.
- The super wealthy are already announcing plans to use their personal fortunes to influence the elections.
- Class discrepancy the influx of private money in politics distorts our nation's politics and limits our electoral process. Spoke about class equality and the influence of it on politics.
- Money is not speech and corporations are not people.

John Friede (Worldview, Director) (provided written testimony)

- Citizens United has opened up the floodgates to unlimited corporate spending on elections. Has had a huge impact on influencing elections.
- In 2012, special interest groups, mostly from outside of NH, spent five times what state candidates did on their own campaigns.
- Most elected officials admit that they spend between 30-70% of their time fundraising instead of governing.
- 53 NH towns will be meeting in the near future in town meetings to vote on overturning Citizens United.

John Raby

- Spoke about his personal experience where big money is valued over anything else.
- People demand democracy and we need to restore what we had. Whatever form of government we have now is not a democracy. One is about power and balance and to have freedom depends on competition and diversity.
- Media firms are consolidating and that combined Citizens United will result in a system for informal censorship.

Ellen Read (provided written testimony)

- Citizens United affects everyone across the spectrum and 3-4 people disagree with Citizens United. The spending in one election went up over 40 times. One person from NY spent \$5million on gun control ads here in NH.

- This prevents a citizen government because if you do not have the funding or ability to fight the attack ads you can't win.
- Pointed out how corporations are not like human beings. If you give power to a corporation then you are extending the power those few owners have. That violates the one person one voice.
- Corporations should have rights, but not constitutional rights.

Peter Bearse

- This bill is a baby step in the right direction, but a critical step and it is not a partisan issue.
- It is even more important in light of two major trends of big money corrupting the process and a fall in participation of people in the process.
- We have a constitutional issue because we no longer have the system that was called for under the original constitution; where all men were created equal that means equal under the law not outcomes. We no longer have equality under the law.
- The market economy is not an engine for equality and we as political leaders need to take that into account. The concentration of wealth leads to laws which favor the further concentration of wealth and decreases the power of the great American majority.
- Campaign finance reform has failed and there is no way to bring it back except through one or two constitutional amendments.

Peter White (provided written testimony), Lynn Chong and Harlan Cheney (provided written testimony)

- Spoke about personal experience with attempting to overturn Citizens United. There is widespread support to overturn it.
- People feel like they don't count anymore and we see a decrease in voter participation.
- This is damaging to our people and our democracy as it was intended by our founding fathers.

Chris Hanson

- Described metaphor between a town hall meeting being overrun by a truck with giant speakers blasting one person talking and Citizens United.
- With having the first in the nation primary, a lot of money is coming into the state. We need to be conscientious of our own rights to speak.

Rob Werner (Americans for Campaign Reform)

- Supports' meeting the challenges and the damages Citizens United has done.
- This is setting up a process for discussion with a multifaceted approach and transparency.

Pam Martin

- Pointed out how corporations want to be viewed as humans when it comes to free speech, but they do not grow old or die or go to jail when crimes are committed.

George Menos

- Described his personal experience with big money used against him in campaign and against others.

Bill Monroe

- Concerned with the Koch brothers and if they dismantle Social Security or Medicare.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition:

None

Fiscal Note: N/A

Future Action: The Committee took the bill under advisement.

JCH

Date hearing report completed: 03/07/2014

[file: SB307 report]

Speakers

Hearing Cancelled

Senate Rules, Enrolled Bills and Internal Affairs Committee: Sign-In Sheet

Date: 02/19/2014

Time: 10:30 am Public Hearing on SB307

SB307

establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.

Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
Senator Watters	Dist 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rep Mary Cooney	Grafton 8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
REP. BOB PERRY	STRAFFORD # 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kate Messner	District 14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elen Read	self/Newmarket	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carel Croteau	self/Kingston	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medora Hebert	self/Westmoreland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sharon B Kerney	self/Monchester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Liz Tentarelli	League of Women Voters NH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nancy Marlette	League of Women Voters of NH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anthony Read	self/Newmarket	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OMER KUM	Self/Monchester	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Peter White	Newington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Olivia Zink	NH Citizens Alliance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maureen Quim	self/Deerfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HERB MOYER	Self/EXETER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nancy Marotta	Self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jordan Minkoff-Zem	Public Citizen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1

Senate Rules, Enrolled Bills and Internal Affairs Committee: Sign-In Sheet

Date: 03/04/2014

Time: 1:45 PM Public Hearing on SB307

SB307

establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.

Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
KENNETH MCKENZIE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ John Friede		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓ Ellen Read	self / Newmarket	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PAT Kerckes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Doreen Boren		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
George Blaisdell		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joseph Bagshaw	We-the-People Mt. Washington Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Barbara Hagg		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓ JOHN TAZY	MYSELF, AS A CITIZEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
JOHN GREEN	SELF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peter J. Thompson	myself	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DICK POLLOCK	WE THE PEOPLE MT WASHINGTON VALLEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
William Dowey	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ Peter Bearse	is	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nancy Dowey	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ Peter White	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Christine Cunningham	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joann Devlin	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ Lynn R. Chong	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Senate Rules, Enrolled Bills and Internal Affairs Committee: Sign-In Sheet

Date: 03/04/2014

Time: 1:45 PM Public Hearing on SB307

SB307

establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.

SPD
NO

NOT
HERE

Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
Melody Zahn Russell	myself (Hans work)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Card Coteau	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Anthony Read	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lester Cuff	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sharon Kenney	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/> maybe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Andrew Weir	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B. Carolyn Wesi	SELF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kelase Cheney	SELF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
M. Chris Hansen	SELF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MICHELE C. HANSEN	SELF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trene Grand	SELF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
David Bates	Self	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michelle Russell	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Corinne Wadg	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Raymond Hanisi	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rep Robert Benny Cushing	Rock 21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barbara Buchanan	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
REP WERNER	AMERICANS FOR CAMPAIGN REFORM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
REP. BOB PERCY	SPENAFFORD #3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Senate Rules, Enrolled Bills and Internal Affairs Committee: Sign-In Sheet

Date: 03/04/2014

Time: 1:45 PM Public Hearing on SB307

SB307

establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.

Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
PETER VANDERWALT	SELF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sandy Woodcock	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kat McGhee	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pamela Chasen	Self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ Tom Martin	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Katherine Hillier	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mary Hazelton	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kate Epsen	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gail M Lynch	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Arnie Aupert	AFSC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ady Simons	AFSC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Liz Tentarelli	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Olivia Zink	Coalition for open Democracy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Christine Hobby	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓ Gary (Name)	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mary (Name)	self	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Julia Chancy	SELF	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Testimony

Andrew M. Weir
105 Wheelwright Road
Hampstead, NH 03841

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

March 4, 2014

Testimony In Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

I am writing to express my support for S.B. 307. Others have exhaustively addressed the legal and constitutional questions in commentary already directed to you regarding the need for this bill. I simply want to state first that I agree with those who contend that corporations and other artificial entities are not entitled to all of the same rights afforded to individuals, most notably interpretations of the First Amendment which equate money with speech.

I am a retired corporate executive and I can assure you that I never worked in any corporation where all my colleagues shared uniform political views. If for no other reason, CEO's or executive committees should not be able to dispense funds from the corporate treasury in order to support specific candidates, thereby falsely presenting employees and shareholders as a monolithic constituency. Further, the absence of disclosure requirements casts an even darker shadow over such donations and facilitates a pervasive and corrupting influence in the election system.

Equally as important as the legal argument is the impact of current law (as defined by the majority opinion in *Citizens United v. FEC*) on our body politic. We are by nearly all accounts a nation very divided on a partisan basis and I believe the political speech which is largely being fueled by the unprecedented infusion of special interest money into our electoral process is the single biggest factor behind this expanding divide. It is part of what prevents us from being able to solve problems and govern ourselves.

In the free market of commerce, it is up to companies who want to sell their goods and services to explain to consumers why what they offer is better. Rarely do you see someone build a successful business by demeaning their competitors. As a small business owner, you surely know this to be true. Shouldn't we want our politics to be the same way? Shouldn't we want candidates to convince voters to support them on the strength of their ideas or their performance, rather than by demeaning their opponents or allowing others to do it on their behalf?

Instead, we are subjected to large sums of special interest money (mostly from out-of-state, often anonymous funders) flooding our elections with mainly personal or character attacks on opponents, sometimes even within their own party. The effect of this legal, but arguably corrupt form of speech, is to amplify partisan rhetoric with a metaphorical megaphone and drown out individual voices and more factual, reasoned debate. We are not better for it.

As I talk with many in my community, I find significant support from all voter segments (Republican, Democrat, and Independent) for the changes S.B. 307 would force us to consider, and that encourages me. These changes would help to free elected officials from the weight of special interests whose demands distract them from their role as the people's representatives. I strongly urge you to support this important legislation.

Respectfully,



Andrew M. Weir
Hampstead, NH

washingtonpost.com > [Opinions](#)

»

Republicans losing their way on campaign finance reform

By Warren Rudman

Friday, February 5, 2010

When I arrived in the U.S. Senate 30 years ago, I was a proud member of a Republican Party known for championing moderation in Congress, restraint in the courts and good-government reform.

In fact, the Republican tradition of campaign finance reform in which I stand dates to the trust-buster, Theodore Roosevelt. In his 1905 message to Congress, President Roosevelt proposed that "contributions by corporations to any political committee or for any political purpose should be forbidden by law." His logic was straightforward enough: "If [legislators] are extorted by any kind of pressure or promise, express or implied, direct or indirect, in the way of favor or immunity, then the giving or receiving becomes not only improper but criminal."

The resulting Tillman Act of 1907 and Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1910 were the first laws limiting corporate money in federal elections and requiring strict disclosure of campaign funds. With the rise of organized labor in the 1930s, Republican Sen. Robert Taft and Republican Rep. Fred Hartley extended the ban on corporate contributions to unions. Those laws were dealt a serious blow by last month's Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*. That such a rash and immoderate ruling could come from a chief justice once committed to respecting precedent, and win praise from leaders of my party, is beyond my comprehension.

It was congressional Republicans who led the 1971 effort to strengthen existing campaign finance law through the Federal Election Campaign Act. After the Watergate campaign finance scandal, Republicans in Congress joined with Democrats to pass far-reaching amendments to the 1971 law, limiting contributions and campaign spending and establishing a system of public financing for presidential campaigns.

In more recent years, my friend and former Senate colleague John McCain (R-Ariz.) took up the cause of reform with Sen. Russ Feingold (D-Wis.), leading a decade-long effort to stem the flow of unregulated "soft money" from special-interest groups to political parties and to curb spending by outside interests.

That history of Republican leadership on campaign finance reform should remind Republicans in Congress today that it is not in our true nature to side with the moneyed interests against the interests of the American people. The Supreme Court has taken that stand.

It's time to return to our roots and take up Teddy Roosevelt's challenge from over a century ago by enacting the only real and lasting solution I know: citizen-funded elections. Under the proposed Fair Elections Now Act, sponsored by more than 130 members of Congress, money from special interests would be replaced by small donations from constituents and matching federal funds. Matching funds, raised through a fee on large-scale government contracts, would go to serious, hardworking candidates who demonstrate a broad base of public support and who say no to large donations.

Republicans and Democrats in Congress must work together to expand political speech for all citizens by replacing special-interest money in politics with small donations and public matching funds. Supreme Court opinion notwithstanding, corporations are not defined as people under the Constitution, and free speech can hardly be called free when only the rich are heard.

The writer, a Republican from New Hampshire, chairs the bipartisan citizen initiative Americans for Campaign Reform with former senators Bill Bradley (D-N.J.), Bob Kerrey (D-Neb.) and Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.). They are leading a federal push for voluntary public funding of congressional and presidential elections

RE: SB307

HONORABLE RUSSELL PRESCOTT

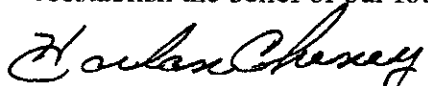
My name is Harlan Cheney. I live in Atkinson, New Hampshire. I am in favor of this nonpartisan endeavor that seeks a Constitutional amendment to get uncontrolled political spending out of Presidential, Congressional and state elections.

On January 31, 2010 the US Supreme Court, in its Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission decision, overturned a section of the 2002 Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, commonly referred to as McCain- Feingold, that prohibited unions and corporations from spending vast sums of money on political advertising in state and federal elections. We're all familiar with the incessant TV attack ads that spew innuendo, misinformation and disinformation about candidates, regardless of their party affiliation.

Now that the floodgates are open, in Washington, representatives from both parties spend 30 to 70% of each day on the phone to raise campaign funds, instead of attending to the country's affairs; and, in New Hampshire, I don't want to see my State Senator, Chuck Morse, primaried because a well-heeled, outside interest doesn't like his ideas for the future of this state.

Our founding fathers who wrote the Constitution were keenly aware of the negative effects posed by money that attempts to sway elections. In federalist Paper 39, James Madison stated, "We may define a republic to be a government that derives all its powers directly or indirectly from the people, not from an inconsiderable proportion of a favored class of it." In Federalist Paper 78, Alexander Hamilton wrote some prescient remarks about the courts. He said, "The courts must declare the sense of the law; and, if they should be disposed to exercise will instead of judgment, the consequences would be equally the substitution of their pleasure to that of the legislative body." That is exactly what the Citizens United decision did.

Nowadays, people feel subjected to their government, not that they control it; this is our opportunity to reestablish the belief of our founding fathers that elections are for "We the People."


HARLAN CHENEY
11 MEDITATION LANE
ATKINSON, NH. 03811

SB 307
Rm. 103 State House
Time: 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday, February 19, 2014

SB 307 - establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.

Analysis: This bill establishes a committee to review constitutional amendments regarding the Citizens United decision and related cases that have been introduced in the United States Congress and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation.

* * * * *

I respectfully disagree with the conclusion in the analysis of the bill, which seems to confine consideration of potential amendment language only to language that has been introduced in the United States Congress.

In contrast, the bill's introductory language at Section 1, Line 1 reads "Committee Established. There is established a committee to review **all** proposed language and amendments to overturn the Citizens United ruling and related cases by the United States Supreme Court." There is no qualifying language in that sentence.

Additionally, language at Roman II. Line 15 indicates that it shall be the duty of the committee to "examine the different approaches and language being proposed for a constitutional amendment." There is no qualifier in that sentence, either.

I therefore conclude the committee is free to broadly consider any language it deems suitable to re-establish the rights of state legislatures to safeguard fair elections through clear and concise language authorizing regulation of corporate and union political spending.

WASA
The Citizens United ruling ~~and the subsequent ruling in SpeechNow~~ were terrible miscalculations of human behavior and the power of money. The consequences of the rulings were

immediate. By Election 2012, spending by outside groups rose 251% over the previous presidential election cycle, and Election 2012 holds the record as the most expensive in history, with political expenditures exceeding \$7 billion. And the usefulness of the Citizens United decision is only in its infancy. Money will find new and more novel ways to influence elections and produce more victories for those who spend the most or are most clever in its use. That includes last-minute advertising having no relationship to truth, and without challenge through disclosure and regulation will prevent good candidates from running for office and ruin the reputations of many others.

In Election 2012, 132 Americans funded 60 percent of SuperPac spending. That's .000042% of the population funded a super majority of SuperPac spending.

The SuperWealthy are already announcing plans to spend hundreds of millions of dollars from their personal fortunes to influence the next election. And those personal fortunes are growing: Forbes magazine recently reported that the richest 85 people in the world own as much wealth as the poorest 3.5 billion.

Daniel Weeks, himself a New Hampshire stalwart of campaign reform, recalls how the late Senator Warren Rudman said the influx of private money in politics 'distorts our nation's agenda, undermines our democratic values, drives voters away from the polls and limits electoral competition.'

Writing in the Washington Post in 2010, Rudman cited the warning of Theodore Roosevelt from 1904, that "contributions by corporations ... for any purpose should be forbidden by law," and asserted that the Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United ignored the best interests of the American people.

There is a growing consensus that the outcome of Election 2014 and subsequent elections will be determined by SuperPacs and the SuperWealthy wielding their political influence through unbridled political spending. I agree. I cite an example of why I agree:

Among three leaked, confidential memos sent by Citigroup in 2005 and 2006 to its best investors, it asserted with a sense of pride and arrogance that there are two classes of people in our country ... the plutonomy and the rest. The memos go on to advise CitiGroup's best investors how to remain on the "gravy train." It also acknowledged that the top 1 percent of American households account for more wealth than the bottom 95 percent, as if that's the way things ought to be.

Those statements should frighten all of us, that a 200 year old corporation, at the time of the leak having 357,000 employees, a corporation the government recognized during the Wall Street Recession as too big to fail, so blatantly dismisses what the founders created. We shall greatly disappoint the founders, that while we slept, we lost what they gave us, even after fair warning that what they crafted was a fragile experiment in self-government.

Another example:

"I think capitalism is a lot more important than democracy. I'm not even a big believer in democracy. I always say that democracy is -- can be two wolves and a sheep deciding what to have for dinner. Now, look, I'm in favor of people having the right to vote and things like that, but, you know, there are a lot of countries that have the right to vote and are still poor. Democracy doesn't always lead to a good economy or even a good political system. In capitalism, you are free to do what you want, to make whatever you want of yourself. It doesn't mean you're going to succeed. Remember, the United States Constitution does not guarantee happiness."

Steven Moore, columnist and member of the editorial board of the Wall Street Journal, the bible of corporate America, circa approximately 2009.

I suggest his remarks to be an affront to the founders. It certainly is to me.

And this Internet headline of February 25 from USA Today:
"Federal super PACS spend big on local elections. Spending by super PACs threatens to overwhelm state and local elections, and experts predict a new flood of money before November's elections."

Big Money will now have a disproportionate influence on who is elected to such positions as selectmen, city charter, city council, school board, and sheriff. And in states where judges are elected, political spending will also determine who serves on the Bench, ending any notion of judicial impartiality.

Last week, two activists attended the U.S. Supreme Court's public session during its consideration of *McCutcheon v FEC*. *McCutcheon* would repeal regulation of individual political spending, opening the floodgates even further to an unprecedented era of money in politics. One activist held a camera while the other uttered these words to members on the Bench:

"I rise on behalf of the vast majority of the American people who believe that money is not speech, corporations are not people, and our democracy should not be for sale to the highest bidder. Overturn *Citizens United*. Keep the cap on *McCutcheon*. The people demand democracy."

Barely had he finished when he was silenced and removed from the court room. Think of it: Speech silenced in the U.S. Supreme Court, while the Bench was considering disproportionately broadening speech for those with money, power and position.

Restoring whatever it is we had begins with overturning *Citizens United* and the legal doctrine that corporations are people.

Restoring whatever it is we had must be the overarching goal of both parties. It is our duty as legislators to recognize this threat and act on our knowledge.

I do not hesitate in begging you to support this study committee.

Sincerely,

Bob Perry
State Representative District #3
Strafford and New Durham

Federal super PACs spend big on local elections

Fredreka Schouten, USA TODAY ([/staff/813/fredreka-schouten](https://staff/813/fredreka-schouten)) 7:33 p.m. EST February 25, 2014

Spending by super PACs threatens to overwhelm state and local elections, and experts predict a new flood of money before November's elections.



(Photo: Todd Plitt, USA TODAY)

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(<https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?url=http://usat.ly/1fnOU3S&text=Federal%20super%20>)

WASHINGTON — The campaign fliers landed in mailboxes last September and October, urging voters in Elizabeth, N.J., to toss out several members of the school board.

The source of the glossy mailers: the Committee for Economic Growth and Social Justice, an innocuously named super PAC registered in Washington to accept and spend unlimited amounts of campaign cash to influence politics — in this case, who would win three unpaid positions on a board that runs a 25,000-student school district.

By Election Day, the group — tied to a powerful New Jersey state senator and heavily funded by the bail bond industry — had spent more than \$150,000, federal campaign records show. The effort largely succeeded. Two of the targeted incumbents lost their seats.

"We've never experienced or expected that outside interest groups would come in and invest this kind of money into a local school board race," said Elizabeth School Board president Tony Monteiro, a political ally of the losing candidates. "It boggles the mind. ... The whole landscape has changed."

The torrent of outside money that has flooded presidential and congressional races in recent years is flowing into down-ballot contests coast to coast — driven by new, well-funded super PACs and court decisions easing restrictions on corporate and union spending in American elections. Outside political spending topped \$1 billion in the presidential and congressional races in 2012, more than three times what such groups spent in the previous election cycle.

The spending is moving to mayoral elections and school board contests in places such as Elizabeth, N.J., and Burbank, Calif., where a group started by former Washington schools chancellor and education activist Michelle Rhee outspent the candidates themselves last year to help people who share her views on school testing and accountability.

Another super PAC has pumped money into a constable race in Texas. Outside spending in the Boston mayoral race hit nearly \$4 million last year. In Nevada, a gun rights group launched a political action committee this month that will target a state senator who sponsored a bill to expand background checks for gun purchases.

Independent spending has been a fixture in politics for years. But super PACs, as many of these turbo-charged independent groups are known, first burst into politics in 2010 after a pair of federal court rulings, including the U.S. Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision that allowed unlimited corporate and union donations to independent political groups. Super PACs can spend unlimited amounts as long as they don't coordinate with the favored candidates.

Even as outside groups spend unlimited amounts, candidates themselves face strict caps on the size of their donations. In places such as Connecticut and Michigan, individual donations to candidates for the state Legislature are capped at a few hundred dollars each.

"It seems as if the back door has gotten larger than the front door," said Kenneth Gross, a Washington lawyer and former Federal Election Commission official. "While the money may not be at the eye-popping level we've seen at the federal level, it can change the course of what seems like a small election."

There's more to come. Experts predict a bigger super PAC onslaught this year, when 36 governors' posts and more than 6,000 state legislative seats are up.

SETTLING SCORES

In New Jersey, outside groups spent a record \$41 million to influence state-level races and ballot initiatives last year — nearly three times what independent organizations spent in Garden State races four years earlier, according to a tally by state regulators. They swamped the \$14.7 million spent by Republican and Democratic Party committees.

In Elizabeth, Anthony Padlo, one of the two school board members ousted last year, said he expected a competitive race but was "surprised that a super PAC has such an interest in a local school board."

The Committee for Economic Growth and Social Justice is at the center of a long-running political feud. It was launched last August by allies of state Sen. Raymond Lesniak, an influential Democratic lawmaker whose district includes the city and who has battled for years with his political rivals on the Elizabeth Board of Education. A candidate backed by the school board tried unsuccessfully to oust Lesniak during the Democratic primary in 2011.

"My decision was to fight fire with fire," Lesniak said of authorizing the super PAC, which is run by his former campaign consultant.

(Lesniak said his goal is to clean up the school board, which has been the target of investigations — including a criminal probe into misuse of the federal school-lunch program. Monteiro, the board's president, said the allegations, which involve former members, have been overblown for political reasons.)

Lesniak has served in the state Legislature since 1978, is chairman of the Senate's economic growth committee and sits on a judiciary panel. In recent years, he spearheaded the legislation that legalized online gambling in the state.

Mark Tenner, a Nevada gambling consultant working to expand online poker, was among the super PAC's donors, giving a combined \$15,000, Federal Election Commission records show.

Other donors include development companies and Lesniak's law firm. The biggest donation came from the American Bail Coalition, which represents bail-bond companies. The Pennsylvania-based group contributed \$75,000 — more than 40% of the group's total receipts last year, the federal records show.

Nicholas Wachinski, the bail coalition's executive director, said the group had never contributed before to a super PAC but decided to do so after several bail agents who operate in Lesniak's legislative district encouraged the national group to get involved.

Despite last year's gains, Lesniak's foes still maintain the majority on the board. More school board positions are up again this fall, and Lesniak said he expects the super PAC will be active again to "finish the job."

FRESH FLOOD OF SPENDING

There's no central repository with data showing how much super PACs have shelled out in state and local races. There's growing evidence, however, that political strategists and deep-pocketed interests plan a fresh flood of spending this year.

In Connecticut, a law firm representing Democratic candidates and groups has urged regulators to write rules that pave the way for more super PAC activity in the state. In New York, where a federal appeals court struck down the state's \$150,000 cap on donations to outside political groups last year, two Republican consultants have started an independent group to help retain the GOP majority in the state's Senate. Early donors include two groups representing New York City landlords.

In Louisiana, a super PAC backing Sen. David Vitter, a Republican, filed a federal lawsuit last week to toss out the state's \$100,000 cap on donations to independent political action committees. Vitter is running for governor in the 2015 election.

The pro-Vitter super PAC has stockpiled \$1.5 million, most of which came from energy interests. Charles Spies, a prominent Republican election lawyer who started the super PAC, said the group operates independently of Vitter, making it harder for any industry to curry favor with Vitter through its super PAC donations.

In Texas, the Liberty for All super PAC is gearing up to support candidates in four legislative races in the state and two others in Maine and West Virginia, said Preston Gates, the group's executive director. It also plans to get involved in municipal races.

The goal is to bring accountability to politics at every level, said Gates and John Ramsey, 23, the PAC's founder, who runs a private-equity firm and has supported Libertarian candidates.

The super PAC has made a big splash. It pumped more than \$1.7 million into several congressional races in 2012, including a primary in northern Kentucky to help Republican Thomas Massie. Massie went on to win the general election. (Much of the money came from Ramsey, then a college-student, who funded his political activity with inherited money.)

In a little-noticed move, Liberty for All spent \$35,000 that year in a Democratic primary for constable in Travis County, Texas — exceeding the incumbent's fundraising. The ads targeted the officeholder over a 15-year-old charge of cocaine smuggling that was later dropped. The incumbent prevailed, but Gates said the spending was effective because it helped force a runoff.

*Ramsey said local races offer the super PAC a "big-time" return on a relatively small investment. "We can incubate candidates who are committed to a better tomorrow," he said. "All politics is local at the end of the day."

Follow @fschouten (<http://twitter.com/fschouten>) on Twitter.

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Mar 03, 2014

March 3, 2014

Dear State Senators Prescott, Bragdon, Bradley, Kelly and Fuller-Clark

RE: SB 307

On Monday February 17th, I was researching for the February 19th public hearing for SB 307. I came upon this OP-ED by former NH Senator Warren Rudman dated exactly 4 years to the date it was published, February 17, 2010. If Senator Rudman is an angel in Granite State heaven I am convinced that he meant for me to find this OP-ED to bring to your attention.

This OP-ED was written just a few weeks after the Citizens United v. FEC ruling. It is obvious that this decision cut to the core of Warren Rudman. He believed the decision eroded the work he did on campaign finance reform for almost 20 years. I know he would support SB 307 and would urge you to support this bill. This study committee will review the several bills already in Congress to amend the US Constitution establishing that Congress has the obligation to regulate campaign spending, and to establish that it is people who the Constitution is written for. After reviewing this information the study committee will bring recommendations to our state and federal legislators.

As a Granite Stater, I want to my vote to matter and not because I gave a candidate money to run for office, but because I chose the right person for the job to best represent me and NH values. Also I want to reiterate the ideal of One Person, One Vote.

“Increasing, candidate qualifications are being measured by the size of their wallet not the strength of their ideas.” ~Warren Rudman.

Best Regards,

Carol Croteau
7 Red Gate Drive
Kingston, NH
603-781-4185
Email: ccroteau42@aol.com

Should recreational marijuana be legal? Answers to the Question of the Week for Sunday, March 10, 2013

By Warren Rudman Former New Hampshire Sen. Warren Rudman is chairman of the bipartisan citizen initiative Americans for Campaign Reform.

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

DailyNews.com

LA Daily News (<http://www.dailynews.com>)

Warren Rudman: Public, not corporations, should finance campaigns

THIRTY years ago, I came to the U.S. Senate as a proud member of a Republican party committed to moderation in Congress, restraint in the courts, and good-government reform.

Last month, I was saddened to witness a conservative Supreme Court majority overturn more than a century of Republican-led limits on special interest money in our elections. That such a rash and immoderate ruling could come from a chief justice once publicly committed to respecting precedent, and win praise from leaders of my party, is beyond my power to comprehend. As a concerned citizen and former member of Congress, I fear the long-term consequences of this ill-conceived ruling in *Citizens United v. FEC* on our republic.

Consider the proud Republican tradition in campaign finance reform dating back more than a century to the trust-busting President Theodore Roosevelt. Speaking to a joint session of Congress in 1905, President Roosevelt proposed that "contributions by corporations to any political committee or for any political purpose should be forbidden by law." His logic was simple: "If (legislators) are extorted by any kind of pressure or promise, express or implied, direct or indirect, in the way of favor or immunity, then the giving or receiving becomes not only improper but criminal."

The resulting Tillman Act of 1907 and Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1910 were the first in a long series of commonsense legislation limiting corporate money in federal elections and requiring strict disclosure of campaign funds. With the rise of organized labor in the 1930s, Republican Senator Robert Taft and Republican Congressman Fred Hartley extended the ban on corporate contributions to unions.

A generation later in 1971, it was congressional Republicans who led a renewed effort to strengthen existing campaign finance law through the Federal Election Campaign Act. When the Watergate scandal thrust ethics and campaign finance abuses into the public spotlight, Republicans and Democrats joined together to pass sweeping amendments to the 1971 law, limiting contributions and campaign spending and establishing a system of public financing for presidential campaigns.

And in recent years, my friend and former Senate colleague John McCain took up the cause of campaign finance reform with Democratic Senator Russ Feingold in a decade-long effort to stem the flow of unregulated party "soft money" from special interest groups and curb spending

by outside interests.

Sen. McCain's rationale for reform echoed Teddy Roosevelt when he courageously declared on the Senate floor, "It is we (the Congress) who are the defenders of a campaign finance system that is nothing less than an elaborate influence peddling scheme in which both parties conspire to stay in office by selling the country to the highest bidder."

That history of Republican leadership on campaign finance reform should matter no more and no less than this: as a pressing reminder to Republicans in Congress today that it is not in our true nature to side with the moneyed interests against the interests of the American people. The Supreme Court majority has already taken that stand.

Instead, I challenge my party to return to our roots and take up Teddy Roosevelt's challenge from more than a century ago by enacting the only real and lasting solution I know: citizen-funded elections. Under the proposed Fair Elections Now Act, sponsored by more than 140 Members of Congress today, money from special interests would be replaced by small donations from ordinary constituents and matching federal funds. Raised through a fee on large-scale government contracts, those matching funds would only be provided to serious and hardworking candidates who demonstrate a broad base of public support and say no to large donations.

URL: <http://www.dailynews.com/opinion/20100217/warren-rudman-public-not-corporations-should-finance-campaigns>

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Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 307 (2014)

Relative to establishing a committee to review constitutional amendments relating to campaign finance reform.

by Kenneth McKenzie, Eaton, NH

Thank you for your attention, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am a private citizen residing in the beautiful Mt. Washington Valley town of Eaton, NH.

I am here today to urge support and passage of SB307.

A little over a year ago a group, including myself, met at the Conway library for a book discussion. The subject of the book concerned the corrupting influence of money in politics. The book, Lawrence Lessig's "Republic, Lost", which I would highly recommend, documents the damaging effects that huge amounts of corporate and special interest money have on our political process.

Many of us in the discussion group decided that we should try to do something about this issue, which we agreed was the root cause of most political problems in this country. Although many national groups are working toward solutions to the "money in politics" issue, we decided to work locally to get resolutions on our town warrants, urging our legislators to take exactly the type of action expressed in SB307; investigate and support a Constitutional amendment that would allow Congress to pass real campaign finance reform. We have gathered enough signatures to place such a resolution on several of the warrants in our Carroll County towns. Our website, www.WeThePeople-MWV.org, has additional information regarding our efforts.

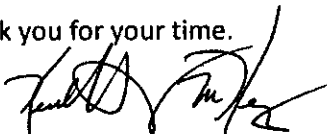
We are taking this action because; according to legitimate polls, there is a general consensus from all sides of the political spectrum that government is becoming unresponsive to the people, and that unlimited special interest money leads to corruption.

In the 1788 Federalist No. 52, James Madison speaks about a legislature "dependent on the people alone," but because the founders could not have possibly foreseen the creation of corporations and other special interest "fundings," the Constitution did not provide protections against their influence, and the erosion of the dependence on "people alone".

Campaign finance laws have been passed in abundance, but they have been largely ineffective; mainly because, when tested in the courts, the justices find no constitutional provision which allows Congress to pass limitations on corporations and other special interests. The only way to pass effective campaign finance reform is to pass a constitutional amendment spelling out that these special interests do not have the same rights as natural people.

In summary: I urge you to support and pass SB307, which expresses the will of the people to find ways to amend the Constitution in a manner that will allow real campaign finance reform, and make our legislature once again "dependent on the people alone."

Thank you for your time.



Kenneth McKenzie, PO Box 84, Eaton, NH 03832 (603) 447-8902

Rachel Cilley
29 Moharimet Road
Madbury, NH 03823

The Honorable Russell Prescott

Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St
Concord, NH 03301

February 15, 2014

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott--

I am contacting to ask that you please vote in favor of SB307. You may have heard many arguments for an amendment to overturn *Citizens United*, but I would like to tell you why the usual opposing arguments are wrong.

I have headed up the warrant article here in Madbury calling for a Constitutional amendment, and although I have experience very little opposition, one of the comments I have heard is reasoning that if individuals have individual Constitutional rights, why would they not have them when heading a corporation or labor union? The answer to this is obviously that individuals DO continue to have constitutional rights as usual, ALWAYS. It is only the corporation itself that should not have Constitutional rights, as it has no consciousness to be able to exercise free speech, religion, etc.

I have also heard people express concern that corporations should have rights...and I agree! We are not saying that corporations shouldn't have rights, we are saying that they do not have Constitutional Rights, as the Constitution outlines the fundamental basis of the government and citizenry, and the relationship between—something that an organization really has very little part in, as it is not the fundamental unit of citizenry. Corporations and other artificial entities should and do have rights, as established in normal law, like corporate law.

Finally, I have heard that denying first amendment rights to corporations is a slippery slope to the infringement of free speech for everyone. Slippery slopes are called that because there is no hard, defining limit between what is right and what is wrong. But there is an obvious hard line here—human beings have constitutional rights, and non-human beings do not. This is a sheer cliff with a brick wall rather than a slippery slope. A constitutional amendment would only affect artificial entities, not the natural persons the Constitution and Bill of Rights was written for. And although I am always the one arguing for the expansion of rights, in this case expanding rights to non-humans actually limits the rights of real people. Control over our government is a zero-sum game, so by giving artificial entities more influence, you take away the influence from the citizenry.

Rather, the slippery slope is in the opposite direction. If Constitutional rights are given to non-human entities such as corporations and other institutions, then why not the right to vote, for example? Or the right to run for office? We have already seen huge legal allowances given to entities whose sole function is not the general good, but to make a profit at any cost. Moreover, if these Constitutional rights are given to something as arbitrary as an institution, then why not my dog, or my ficus tree for that matter—both of which could be said to have more of the God-given rights that the Constitution speaks of than a manmade convention that exists only on paper. At least a dog literally has the same birth/death/reproduction as humans that corporate personhood advocates claim institutions have figuratively, arguing that those analogies entitle institutions to the same rights as people. And my dog actually has a mind and feelings to boot!

I appreciate your thoughtful support of protecting the rights of actual people!



Anthony Read
283 Lita Ln.
Newmarket, NH 03857

The Honorable Russell Prescott

Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

2/18/14

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

I am contacting you in support of Senate Bill 307. The idea behind the Citizens United decision, that political spending is speech, is just plain wrong. Money is not speech; money is a megaphone that amplifies certain messages and drowns out others. The amplification of speech is already regulated. For example, I may have a right to speak to my legislator, but I probably would not be allowed to use a bullhorn in his office.

Further, political spending is a financial transaction, and many financial transactions are, and should be, regulated. We have a long tradition of regulating political donations, and it is no coincidence that we are seeing an increase in government dysfunction coincide with deregulation. Teddy Roosevelt said that "contributions by corporations for any political purpose should be forbidden by law", and James Madison who framed the constitution said "the people on whom the branch depends on should not be the rich more than the poor." All of the world's well-functioning democracies strictly regulate political spending.

In a democracy, the size of your wallet should not determine the volume of your voice. Democracies are founded upon the principal of one person, one voice...but if you consider money as speech then that leaves those without money voiceless.

Thank you for supporting SB307.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony Read". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Ellen Read
283 Lita Ln
Newmarket, NH 03857

The Honorable Russell Prescott

Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

2/18/14

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

I am contacting you in support of Senate Bill 307. One of the key concepts behind the egregious *Citizens United* decision is that artificial organizations like corporations are actually people under the constitution. This is laughable, and the everyday citizen has an innate understanding that obviously an organization is ^{not - is} the same thing as a human being, and should not be treated that way.

A labor union or corporation, for example, is only a contract—wealth on paper—and can only do what the individuals who own it say to do, like some giant, mindless puppet. By giving these entities constitutional rights, you are disproportionately multiplying the rights of those few people in control, and therefore multiplying the representation they have.

Not only are corporations not even mentioned anywhere in the constitution (and being the legal document that it is it certainly would have mentioned them if the framers thought corporations should have the same regard as people), but the constitution explicitly states that it is “we the people” who are “endowed by our creator with certain inalienable rights”—meaning that our founding fathers believed that we had certain rights, not because we were given them by the government, but by our very nature of being real, living human beings. In other words, they saw constitutional rights as human rights. Artificial organizations do not have this inherent nature that endows them with rights, and do not have minds or souls with which to even exercise those rights.

Further, by the very fact that these organizations are owned, they are property—and people cannot be property, according to the 13th amendment.

We do not allow labor unions and corporations to vote (which seems an absurd idea), so we should not allow them to influence elections (which is equally absurd). Yet by controlling campaign finances these organizations effectively have more of a voice than if they could merely vote.

Thank you for supporting SB307.

Sincerely,



Roberta Branca
345 Great Bay Woods
Newmarket, NH 03857

The Hon. Russell Prescott

Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

February 16, 2014

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott,

I am writing to urge you to support SB307. The issue of the Citizens United decision is one that affects everyone across the political spectrum. It is not a conservative or liberal issue, but an issue of whether we care about our democracy. Virtually everyone, regardless of political leaning, agrees that our government should be controlled by the people, and not by special interests and other moneyed organizations. 96% of Americans believe that money has too much control over our political system, and it has become a running joke that our political system is broken and that we are all disillusioned with our federal government. In fact not only do 3 out of 4 people, in every political category, disagree with Citizens United, but this is the one issue that the movements in both the extreme right and the extreme left actually agree on—both movements were born out of a sense that our system no longer works for the average person. The truth is that no matter what a community's causes are, there is little hope anything will get done about it—because our elected officials in Washington spend up to 70% of their time fundraising for their next campaign instead of doing their jobs carrying out the will of their constituents. Our politicians are beholden to donors just to get into office, and that leaves all of us, whether we are conservative or liberal or anything else, without a voice in our own government.

Please support SB307.

Thank you,



Harlan Cheney
Meditation Lane
Atkinson, NH

The Honorable Russell Prescott and Committee
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301
February 19, 2014

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

My name is Harlan Cheney. I live on Meditation Lane in Atkinson, New Hampshire. I am in favor of this nonpartisan endeavor that seeks a Constitutional amendment to get uncontrolled political spending out of Presidential, Congressional and state elections.

On January 31, 2010 the US Supreme Court, in its *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* decision, overturned a section of the 2002 Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, commonly referred to as McCain- Feingold, that prohibited unions and corporations from spending vast sums of money on political advertising in state and federal elections. We're all familiar with the incessant TV attack ads that spew innuendo, misinformation and disinformation about candidates.

Now that the floodgates are open, representatives from both parties spend 30 to 70% of each day on the phone to raise campaign funds, instead of attending to the country's affairs.

Our founding fathers who wrote the Constitution were keenly aware of the negative effects posed by money that attempts to sway elections. In federalist Paper 39, James Madison stated, "We may define a republic to be a government that derives all its powers directly or indirectly from the people, not from an inconsiderable proportion of a favored class of it." In Federalist Paper 78, Alexander Hamilton wrote some prescient remarks about the courts. He said, "The courts must declare the sense of the law; and, if they should be disposed to exercise will instead of judgment, the consequences would be equally the substitution of their pleasure to that of the legislative body."

Nowadays, people feel subjected to their government, not that they control it; this is your opportunity to change a problem with the electoral process.

Please support SB307. Thank you.

Harlan Cheney -XEDOR

Doreen Boren
175 Great Bay Woods
Newmarket, NH 03857

The Hon. Russell Prescott

Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

17 Feb 2014

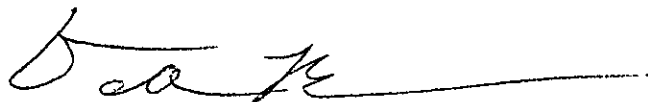
Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott,

I am writing you to ask that you and the committee please vote in favor of SB307.

Our NH elections are being flooded with outside money from both the left and the right. In the 2012 gubernatorial race outside sources spent five times what the candidates themselves spent, and that was a typical spending increase in an election...spending in the 2012 NH 2nd district race was 40 times what it was in 2008. And over 80% of all these contributions come from less than ½ of 1% OF Americans. Michael Bloomberg alone spent \$5 million on gun control ads here in NH, even though he lives in NY. All of this outside money interferes with our ability to control our own elections-- determining who gets to run by "primarying" otherwise good candidates who just don't have the money to compete. This money also controls the messages that the electorate is exposed to by subjecting us to a barrage of negative and often false attack ads every election cycle that we are all sick of. We cannot have a citizen legislature when the average citizen has no chance of successfully running for office, and we cannot have a democracy when outside money buys election results—and 80% of the time the candidate with the most money backing him, wins.

Thank you in advance for voting FOR the PEOPLE,



Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

The late Senator Warren Rudman (R, NH) put it plainly: "Supreme Court opinion notwithstanding, corporations are not defined as people under the Constitution, and free speech can hardly be called free when only the rich are heard." Corporations are not people and money is not speech.

There is a fundamental flaw in our Constitution: nowhere does it state that the rights and protections it bestows upon citizens are those of natural persons only. Yet how could the Founding Fathers have intended anything else? Corporations, labor unions, Super PACs – none of these are included in the Constitution. No Supreme Court decision has ever declared that corporations are people; not *Dartmouth v. Woodward* in 1819, not *Santa Clara County v. Southern Pacific Railroad* in 1886, not *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* in 2010. In the *Dartmouth* decision Chief Justice John Marshall wrote "A corporation is an artificial being, invisible, intangible, and existing only in contemplation of law. Being the mere creature of law, it possesses only those properties which the charter of creation confers upon it." Even the majority opinion in *Citizens United* acknowledges that corporations are not natural persons.

Money is not speech, but it can be a megaphone. Representative democracy cannot survive when only the voices of the wealthy and powerful can be heard. Modulating the volume deprives no person, natural or artificial, of the right of free speech. An amendment clarifying that the Constitution of the United States applies only to real people does not negate the free speech rights of the corporate executive, the union president, or the janitors who clean their offices. The First Amendment gives me the right to speak freely and indeed the right to offer this testimony. The First Amendment does not give me the right to use a bullhorn in town meeting.

In Federalist 52 James Madison asked his countrymen to adopt a government "dependent on the People alone". By passing SB 307, New Hampshire can join the growing national movement to restore such a government.

Joseph C. Bagshaw
Center Conway, NH

835 French Pond Road
North Haverhill, NH 03774

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

5 February 2014

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten respondents oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who had heard about *Citizens United* believed by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported similar legislation throughout the nation, including in Maine, where Republican State Senator Youngblood introduced a measure that passed 25 to 9 in the Maine Senate and 111 to 33 in their House.^{iv}

We are already seeing these negative effects in our electoral process. Reported spending by outside groups empowered by *Citizens United* rose 427% in the 2010 election cycle, reaching \$294.2 million.^v According to the Center for Responsive Politics, more than \$1.25 billion in outside money was spent to influence voters nationwide during the 2012 election.^{vi}

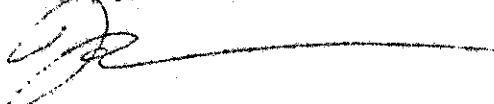
New Hampshire has not been immune from this type of spending. In the 2012 New Hampshire gubernatorial race, outside groups spent \$19 million - almost 5 times what the candidates spent themselves.^{vii}

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes a need for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and establishes a committee to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which amendment to support. There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* should state. Creating a committee allows informed actors to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach.

Outside spending can have dramatic effects on races on both sides of the aisle. In the recent Virginia governor race, the Republican candidate was outspent 2 to 1.^{viii} This trend has been mirrored nationally this year,^{ix} and candidates on both sides are increasingly threatened by large outside spenders.

I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire to join this progression in passing this legislation with strong bipartisan support and joining the growing national call for a nation that is governed of, by and for the people, not a government that is able to be bought and sold by special interests, potentially not even of American origin.

Sincerely,



Jeremy E. Thompson

JOHN R. and NANCY G. HALLORAN

3 Black Alder Drive, Kingston NH 03848

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

January 14, 2014

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten respondents oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*. This is not a partisan issue. Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported similar legislation throughout the nation, including in Maine.

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes a need for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and establishes a committee to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which amendment to support. There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* should state. Creating a committee allows informed actors to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach. I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire to join this progression in passing this legislation with strong bipartisan support and joining the growing national call for a nation that is governed of, by and for the people, not a government that is able to be bought and sold by special interests.

Sincerely,

Nancy G. Halloran

John R. Halloran

To: Chair, Senate Rules, Enrolled Bills and Internal Affairs Committee

From: Dick Pollock

We The People- Mount Washington Valley (www.wethepeople-mwv.org)
388 Dandiview Rd., North Conway, NH 03860

Re: Senate Bill 307

Date: March 4, 2014

We no longer live in a democracy.

Instead we live in a well funded plutocracy where those of extreme wealth have the ear of the Congress while those who elected that body might as well be mimes speaking in a sound proof room. Effectively, we have no voice.

It's clearly up to "the people" to take exception to what has been misappropriated and fix it. There are more than a few parts to the puzzle so where to start ?

The NH Senate has an opportunity to represent "the people" instead of narrow political interests. By studying ways, such as a resolution calling for a constitutional amendment (vis a vis Citizens United), that can return in whole or part the Constitutional rights of every American to have a national legislature which is "answerable to the people alone", the Senate of our state can address the problem at hand. To do nothing makes our legislature complicit in what is a national blight.

Recent polls indicate that 96% of Americans feel that big money is out of control when it comes to our electoral process. Worse yet is that 91% if those same folks believe that there's no way to change it.

In a country that is crying out for leadership on issues such as campaign finance reform, citizen legislatures such as ours have an opportunity to give voice and in doing so give hope.

It seems like an admirable legacy to be able to say that the Legislature of the "Live Free or Die" state took action that combined with the force of similar actions in other states forced our national leadership to pay attention.

What better thing can you do today ?

George Manos
21 Rim Road
Danville, NH. 03819

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

January 14, 2014

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review Citizens United Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The Citizens United ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten respondents oppose the court's ruling in Citizens United . This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who had heard about Citizens United believed by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect. Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the Citizens United ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).

We are already seeing these negative effects in our electoral process. Reported spending by outside groups empowered by Citizens United rose 427% in the 2010 election cycle, reaching \$294.2 million. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, more than \$1.25 billion in outside money was spent to influence voters nationwide during the 2012 election.

New Hampshire has not been immune from this type of spending. In the 2012 New Hampshire gubernatorial race, outside groups spent \$19 million - almost 5 times what the candidates spent themselves.

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes a need for a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United and establishes a committee to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which amendment to support. There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United should state. Creating a committee allows informed actors to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach.

This is not a partisan issue. Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported similar legislation throughout the nation, including in Maine, where Republican State Senator Youngblood introduced a measure that passed 25 to 9 in the Maine Senate and 111 to 33 in their House.

Outside spending can have dramatic effects on races on both sides of the aisle. In the recent Virginia governor race, the Republican candidate was outspent 2 to 1. This trend has been mirrored nationally this year, and candidates on both sides are increasingly threatened by large outside spenders.

I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire to join this progression in passing this legislation with strong bipartisan support and joining the growing national call for a nation that is governed of, by and for the people, not a government that is able to be bought and sold by special interests.

Sincerely,

George Manos

280 Old Hebron Road
Plymouth, NH 03264
martinp003@gmail.com

January 28, 2014

Senator Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Testimony in support of SB 307

Dear Senator Prescott:

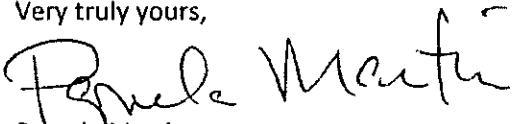
I am writing to you in support of SB 307, An Act Establishing a Committee to Review Citizens United Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Everyone I have spoken to about the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision believes it was a wrong decision and hopes to overturn it someday. Since the court's decision, corporate expenditures have soared allowing spending of unlimited amounts of money to defeat or elect candidates. I feel that unlimited spending has had a profound effect on elections and on our democracy.

In Plymouth, our community is joining many others in New Hampshire this spring to pass petitioned warrant articles to urge the NH State Legislature to call upon Congress to move forward this constitutional amendment. Sixteen other states, including all the other New England states, have already called for the amendment.

I urge you to pass this legislation. We must remember that the Constitution speaks of We the People. We the People must reject the U.S. Supreme Court's Citizens United ruling and move to amend our Constitution to firmly establish that money is not speech, and that human beings, not corporations, are persons entitled to constitutional rights.

Thank you for your support of this very important issue.

Very truly yours,


Pamela Martin

Peter A. White
61 White's Grove Road
Nottingham, NH 03290
Cell phone 508-395-5984

January 17, 2014

Senator Russell Prescott
State House Room 302
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Senator Prescott,

It was a pleasure talking with you on the phone last week regarding S.B. 307 that establishes a committee to develop a Constitutional amendment that will overturn the Supreme Court's "Citizens United" decision.

As you know that decision has opened up the floodgates for special interest funding of our elections and "the best Congress money can buy" as Will Rogers said. Our State elections are also being impacted by out of state special interest sources, many unidentified, and I'm sure our Founders would oppose this if they were here!

Political action committees and "super PACs" must be stopped from totally corrupting our political process and only a Constitutional amendment can do that. We need 2/3 of the states to send a resolution to Congress and so far 16 states have done so.

Many New Hampshire towns will be voting at Town Meetings this year to urge the New Hampshire Legislature to approve a Resolution to Congress for this Constitutional amendment and S.B. 307 will be a big step in that direction! Your leadership would be a big help!

Thank you for your favorable consideration of S.B. 307 and similar efforts that are crucial to bringing our elections under the control of We the People!

Sincerely,

Peter A. White

Joseph C. Bagshaw
276 Davis Hill Road
Center Conway, NH 03813
The Honorable Russell Prescott

Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

January 30, 2014

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review Citizens United Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

I write in support of SB 307. Big money is corrupting our government, buying our elections, and eroding our democracy. The Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United v. FEC allowed corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money on elections, permitted the creation of Super PACs, and dealt a devastating blow to our republic.

The problem began long before Citizens United! For more than a century the courts have mistakenly treated corporations and other creations of law as though they were real people, yet no Supreme Court decision has ever declared that corporations are people. This doctrine of corporate personhood, which makes real campaign finance reform impossible, arose from a fundamental flaw in our Constitution: nowhere does it state that the rights and protections therein are those of natural persons only. Although the Founding Fathers could not foresee the obscenely expensive political campaigns of the twenty-first century, they did anticipate the need for occasional corrections to the Constitution. Article V provides clear instructions for necessary corrections.

This is not a partisan issue. A large majority of the American people, regardless of political affiliation, are outraged by the Court's ruling in Citizens United and want their elected representatives to reverse it. In a Granite State poll conducted in April, 61% of Republicans, 75% of Democrats and 73% of Independents supported an amendment to limit both campaign contributions and campaign spending. By an overwhelming margin (88%), small business owners agree that the effect of money in politics is negative. More than 500 towns and cities have passed resolutions calling for a Constitutional amendment to reverse Citizens United, as have 16 states including every state in New England except New Hampshire.

Several bills proposing a constitutional amendment to reverse Citizens United are pending before the U. S. House and Senate. The differences among these bills are worthy of discussion. SB 307 is common sense legislation that establishes a committee of our elected representatives to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire Congressional delegation as to which amendment to support.

In Federalist 52, James Madison asked the citizens of a new nation to create a government "dependent on the People alone". I am asking you, Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire, to join the growing national call to honor Madison's vision and restore elections that cannot be bought by special interests.

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Bagshaw

New Hampshire citizen

The Honorable Russell Prescott

Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten respondents oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who had heard about *Citizens United* believed by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ

We are already seeing these negative effects in our electoral process. Reported spending by outside groups empowered by *Citizens United* rose 427% in the 2010 election cycle, reaching \$294.2 million.^{iv} According to the Center for Responsive Politics, more than \$1.25 billion in outside money was spent to influence voters nationwide during the 2012 election.^v

New Hampshire has not been immune from this type of spending. In the 2012 New Hampshire gubernatorial race, outside groups spent \$19 million - almost 5 times what the candidates spent themselves.^{vi}

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes a need for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and establishes a committee to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which amendment to support. There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* should state. Creating a committee allows informed actors to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach.

This is not a partisan issue. Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported similar legislation throughout the nation, including in Maine, where Republican State Senator Youngblood introduced a measure that passed 25 to 9 in the Maine Senate and 111 to 33 in their House.^{vii}

Outside spending can have dramatic effects on races on both sides of the aisle. In the recent Virginia governor race, the Republican candidate was outspent 2 to 1.^{viii} This trend has been mirrored nationally this year,^{ix} and candidates on both sides are increasingly threatened by large outside spenders.

I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire to join this progression in passing this legislation with strong bipartisan support and joining the growing national call for a nation that is governed of, by and for the people, not a government that is able to be bought and sold by special interests.

Sincerely,

Ginny Schneider

ⁱ Eggen, D. (17 Feb 2010, 15 Sept 2011). "Poll: Large majority opposes Supreme Court's decision on campaign financing." *Washington Post*. Retrieved 15 Sept, 2011, from <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/17/AR20100217011151.html>.

ⁱⁱ Pew Research Center (17 Jan 2012). "Super PACs Having Negative Impact, Say Voters Aware of 'Citizens United' Ruling, Retrieved 18 January, 2012, from <http://www.people-press.org/2012/01/17/super-pacs-having-negative-impact-say-voters-aware-of-citizens-united-ruling/>

ⁱⁱⁱ Public Citizen's analysis of Federal Election Commission (FEC) data. See Congress Watch (January 2011). "12 Months After: The Effects of *Citizens United* on Elections and the Integrity of the Legislative Process." Retrieved 15 Sept, 2011, from <http://www.citizen.org/documents/Citizens-United-20110113.pdf>.

^{iv} Center for Responsive Politics. "Outside Spending." Retrieved 7 November, 2012, from <http://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/index.php>

^v Zach Azem, M.A., Andrew E. Smith, Ph.D., The Survey Center, University of New Hampshire (18 Apr 2013) Granite State Poll, Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.united4thepeople.org/images/NHpoll.pdf>

^{vi} Coalition for Open Democracy, "The Need for Full Disclosure Now: New Hampshire Citizens Must Regain the Right to Know Who is Bankrolling Their Elections" Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.coalitionforopendemocracy.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/cod8pgdisclosurefinaldec17.pdf>

^{vii} Maine Citizens for Clean Elections (April 30, 2013) "Maine Legislature Calls on Congress to Pass Constitutional Amendment to Reverse *Citizens United*" Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from https://www.mainecleanelections.org/sites/default/files/press_releases/2013/130430_MCCE_PressRelease_LegPassesCAResolution_State.pdf

^{viii} Evan Halper, *Los Angeles Times* (5 Nov 2013) Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.latimes.com/nation/politics/politicsnow/la-pn-democrats-gop-virginia-governor-election-20131105,0,2396386.story#axzz2IPGYLRQg>

^{ix} Fredreka Schouten, *USA Today* (13 Nov 2013) "Pro-Democratic super PACs outspend conservatives." Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2013/11/11/liberal-super-pacs-and-dark-money-groups-outspend-conservatives-in-2013-races/3495983/axzz2IPGYLRQg>

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen and registered voter of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. I have seen reports showing evidence that *The Citizens United* ruling has allowed corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy. AND I have read that this vote wasn't even the one asked of the Supreme Court. They took it upon themselves to widen the scope of the suit. If they hadn't done that, we may not even be dealing with this blow.

As I'm sure you've heard the vast majority of the American people are truly upset by the Court's ruling. We can all quote figures, but the bottom line is that Republicans, Democrats and Independents all opposed this ruling by large margins. So it is not a partisan issue. Consequently, **69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).**

We are already seeing these negative effects in our electoral process nationwide with funding by outside groups rising by 294.2 million in 2011 and more than \$1.25 billion in the 2012 election. And our New Hampshire has not been immune from this type of spending with outside groups spending \$19 million in the 2012 New Hampshire gubernatorial race – almost 5 times what the candidates spent themselves. We don't need outsiders telling us how to vote and no one wants their vote to be overshadowed by big money.

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes a need for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and establishes a committee to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which amendment to support. There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* should state. Creating a committee allows informed citizens to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach.

As I've stated, this is not a partisan issue. Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported similar legislation throughout the nation, including in Maine, where Republican State Senator Youngblood introduced a measure that passed 25 to 9 in the Maine Senate and 111 to 33 in their House.

I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire to join this progression in passing this legislation with strong bipartisan support and joining the growing national call for a nation that is governed **of, by, and for** the people, not a government that is able to be bought and sold by special interests.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Britton

mbrittons@comcast.net

16 Long Hill Estates

Peterborough, 03458

Dennis Burk Lintz
Post Office Box 181
Laconia, NH 03247

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

January 20, 2013

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy and the practice needs to be stopped.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten respondents oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who had heard about *Citizens United* believed by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ

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Outside spending can have dramatic effects on races on both sides of the aisle. In the recent Virginia governor race, the Republican candidate was outspent 2 to 1.^{viii} This trend has been mirrored nationally this year,^{ix} and candidates on both sides are increasingly threatened by large outside spenders.

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Dennis Burk Lintz

Dennis Burk Lintz

¹ Eggen, D. (17 Feb 2010, 15 Sept 2011). "Poll: Large majority opposes Supreme Court's decision on campaign financing." *Washington Post*. Retrieved 15 Sept, 2011, from <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/07/17/AR2010022701151.html>.

² Pew Research Center (17 Jan 2012). "Super PACs Having Negative Impact, Say Voters Aware of 'Citizens United' Ruling, Retrieved 18 January, 2012, from <http://www.people-press.org/2012/01/17/super-pacs-having-negative-impact-say-voters-aware-of-citizens-united-ruling/>

³ Public Citizen's analysis of Federal Election Commission (FEC) data. See Congress Watch (January 2011), "12 Months After: The Effects of *Citizens United* on Elections and the Integrity of the Legislative Process." Retrieved 15 Sept, 2011, from <http://www.citizen.org/documents/Citizens-United-20110113.pdf>.

⁴ Center for Responsive Politics. "Outside Spending." Retrieved 7 November, 2012, from <http://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/index.php>

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⁶ Coalition for Open Democracy, "The Need for Full Disclosure Now: New Hampshire Citizens Must Regain the Right to Know Who is Bankrolling Their Elections" Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.coalitionforopendemocracy.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/cod8pgdisclosurefinaldec17.pdf>

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⁸ Evan Halper, *Los Angeles Times* (5 Nov 2013) Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.latimes.com/nation/politics/politicsnow/la-pn-democrats-gop-virginia-governor-election-20131105,0,2396386.story#axzz2IPGYLRQg>

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The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

51 Miller Rd
New Durham, NH 03855

January 23, 2014

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten respondents oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who had heard about *Citizens United* believed by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ

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New Hampshire has not been immune from this type of spending. In the 2012 New Hampshire gubernatorial race, outside groups spent \$19 million - almost 5 times what the candidates spent themselves.^{vi} Candidates for NH State Senate and even House Representatives are feeling the negative effects of outside money influencing election outcomes.

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes a need for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and establishes a committee to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which amendment to support. There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* should state. Creating a committee allows informed actors to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach.

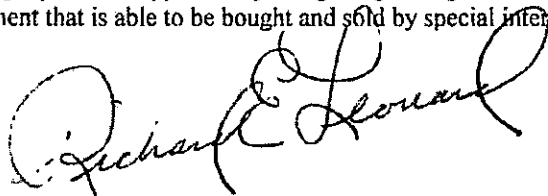
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Outside spending can have dramatic effects on races on both sides of the aisle. In the recent Virginia governor race, the Republican candidate was outspent 2 to 1.^{viii} This trend has been mirrored nationally this year,^{ix} and candidates on both sides are increasingly threatened by large outside spenders.

I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire to join this progression in passing this legislation with strong bipartisan support and joining the growing national call for a nation that is governed of, by and for the people, not a government that is able to be bought and sold by special interests.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Leonard, RPh



¹ Eggen, D. (17 Feb 2010, 15 Sept 2011). "Poll: Large majority opposes Supreme Court's decision on campaign financing." *Washington Post*. Retrieved 15 Sept, 2011, from <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/17/AR2010021701151.html>.

² Pew Research Center (17 Jan 2012). "Super PACs Having Negative Impact, Say Voters Aware of 'Citizens United' Ruling." Retrieved 18 January, 2012, from <http://www.people-press.org/2012/01/17/super-pacs-having-negative-impact-say-voters-aware-of-citizens-united-ruling/>

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⁶ Coalition for Open Democracy, "The Need for Full Disclosure Now: New Hampshire Citizens Must Regain the Right to Know Who is Bankrolling Their Elections" Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.coalitionforopendemocracy.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/cod8pgdisclosurefinaldec17.pdf>

⁷ Maine Citizens for Clean Elections (April 30, 2013). "Maine Legislature Calls on Congress to Pass Constitutional Amendment to Reverse *Citizens United*" Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from https://www.mainecleanelections.org/sites/default/files/press_releases/2013/130430_MCCE_PressRelease_LegPassesCAResolution_State.pdf

⁸ Evan Halper, *Los Angeles Times* (5 Nov 2013) Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.latimes.com/nation/politics/politicsnow/la-pn-democrats-gop-virginia-governor-election-20131105,0,2396386.story#axzz2iPGYLRQg>

⁹ Fredrika Schouten, *USA Today* (13 Nov 2013) "Pro-Democratic super PACs outspend conservatives." Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2013/11/11/liberal-super-pacs-and-dark-money-groups-outspend-conservatives-in-2013-races/3495983/axzz2iPGYLRQg>

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REMOVE SPECIAL INTEREST MONEY FROM OUR ELECTIONS – Contact Peter White (603-895-3857)

State Resolutions and Ballot Initiatives *Passed so far:*

- **Oregon** – On July 4, 2013, the **Oregon State Legislature** passed SJM 9 to overturn the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision.
- **Delaware** – On June 10, 2013, the **majority of the House and Senate of the Delaware General Assembly** sent a letter to Delaware's congressional delegation calling to overturn *Citizens United* and related cases, and stating that "the United States of America's elections should not be permitted to go to the highest bidder."
- **Illinois – May 2013:** SJR 27, a joint resolution introduced by State Senators Heather Steans, Karen McConaughay and Pamela J. Althoff . The resolution calls "upon the United States Congress to propose and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United v. FEC*, *SpeechNow.org v. FEC*, *Buckley v. Valeo*, and other related cases that allow for unlimited election spending.
- **Maine - April 2013:** SP 548, a joint resolution introduced by State Senator Dick Woodybury. The joint resolution declares Maine's support "for an amendment to the United States Constitution regarding campaign finance that would reaffirm the power of citizens through their government to regulate the raising and spending of money in elections."
- **West Virginia - April 2013:** SR 24, introduced by Senator Herb Snyder, **passed in the Senate**; HR 9, introduced by Delegate Meshea Poore, passed in the House.
- **Colorado - November 2012:** Amendment 65, a statewide ballot initiative, **passed with 73.8% of the vote**. Amendment 65 instructs Colorado's congressional delegation to propose and support "an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that allows Congress and the states to limit campaign contributions and spending that allow all citizens, regardless of wealth, to express their views to one another on a level playing field."
- **Montana - November 2012:** Ballot Initiative 166, "Stand with Montanans", **passed with 75% of the vote**. Initiative 166 established "a state policy that corporations are not entitled to constitutional rights because they are not human beings entitled to constitutional rights."
- **New Jersey - October 2012:** SR 47, introduced by State Senator Jeff Van Drew, **passed in the Senate on October 4, 2012**. AR 86, introduced by State Representative Herb Conway, **passed in the Assembly on October 18th, 2012** by a roll call vote. The companion bills "expresses strong opposition to the United States Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission* and calls upon the Congress of the United States to propose an amendment to the United States Constitution to provide that with regard to corporation campaign spending, a person means only a natural person for First Amendment protection of free speech".
- **Connecticut – September 2012:** **88 state representatives and 22 state senators signed a letter** calling for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United v. FEC*.

- **Massachusetts - July 2012:** S772, introduced by State Senator Jamie Eldridge, **passed the Senate on July 26, 2012, and the House on July 31, 2012.** The resolution called for action to "restore the First Amendment and fair elections to the people."
- **California - July 2012:** AJR 22, introduced on March 20, 2012 by Assemblyman Weikowski, **passed in the California State Assembly in March and in the Senate in July.** AJR 22 "calls upon the United States Congress to propose and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* and to restore constitutional rights and fair elections to the people."
- **Rhode Island - May 2012:** H7899 was introduced by Speaker of the House Gordon Fox and passed on May 8th, 2012. S2656 was introduced by State Senate President Teresa Paiva-Weed and passed on May 24, 2012. **Governor Lincoln Chafee signed the joint resolutions on May 30, 2012.**
- **Maryland - April 2012:** State Senator Jamie Raskin introduced a letter to the Maryland General Assembly. The letter concluded that the Supreme Court has undermined the progress of popular democracy in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* and call upon the United States Congress to propose and send to the states for ratification as soon as is practicable a constitutional amendment to reverse this decision and restore fair elections and democratic sovereignty to the states and to the people." **The majority of members in the House of Delegates and State Senate signed the letter.**
- **Vermont - April 2012:** JRS 11: On behalf of the Vermont Legislature, JRS 11 "expresses its disagreement with the holdings of the U.S. Supreme Court in *Buckley* and in *Citizens United* that money is speech" and "urges Congress to consider the request of many Vermont cities and towns to propose a U.S. constitutional amendment for the state's consideration that provides that money is not speech and corporations are not persons under the U.S. Constitution and that also affirms the constitutional rights of natural persons."
- **New Mexico - January 2012:** HM 4, introduced by Representative Stewart, **passed in a 38-29 vote in the House on January 30, 2012.** SM 3, introduced by Senator Fischmann, **passed in a 20-9 vote in the Senate on February 7, 2012.** The companion bills "express strong opposition to the United States supreme court's decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* and call upon the United States congress to propose and send to the states for ratification an amendment to the United States constitution to restore republican democracy to the people of the United States."
- **Hawaii - April 2010:** HCR 282, introduced on March 10, 2010 by Rep. Bob Herkes (D-5), **passed the House on April 9, 2012 and the Senate on April 28, 2012.** Through HCR 282, the State of Hawaii "respectfully requests that the U.S. Congress propose and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to clarify the distinction between the rights of natural persons and the rights of corporations, thereby preserving the power of Congress and the States to place limits on the ability of corporations to influence the outcome of elections through political expenditures."

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten people oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who have heard about *Citizens United* believe by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ

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Sincerely,

Michelle Russell

*89 Old Dublin Rd
Hancock, NH 03449*

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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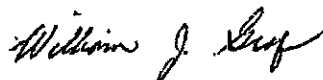
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Sincerely,



WILLIAM J. GERAUF

661 GILMORE POOND RD.

JAFFREY, NH 03452

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

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Sincerely,

Cathy Morrissey
Cathy Morrissey

22 Mill Street
New Boston, NH

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

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Peri McGuire-Harkins
New Boston, NH

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Sincerely,

Melody Zahn Russell
89 Old Dublin Rd
Hamden NH 03449

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Statehouse, Room 302
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Sincerely,

Joseph C. Bagshaw
276 Davis Hill Rd.
Ctr. Conway, NH 03813

Sandy Woodcock
353 Seruton Pond Road
Barrington, NH 03825

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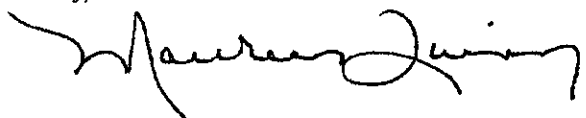
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Maureen Quin
47A Nottingham Road
Deerfield NH
03037

The Honorable Russell Prescott
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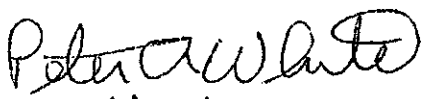
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Peter White
Nottingham

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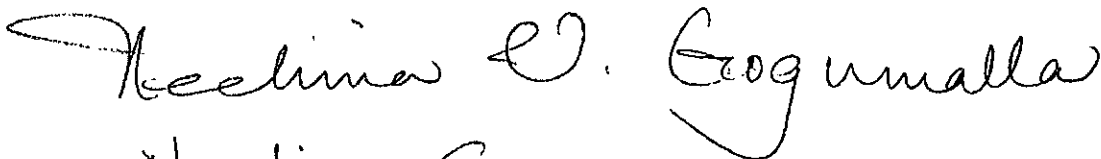
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Neelima Gogumalla

9, Golfview Rd

Windham, NH - 03087

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Scott Abercrombie
Salem, NH

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Sincerely,

Patrick M. Eggleston

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9 Conifer Lane

Amherst

NH

03031 - 1948

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

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Penny Eggleston Penny Eggleston
Amherst, NH 03031 - 1948

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Sincerely,

Rachel Cilly
Rachel Cilly
29 Mohammet Drive
Madbury, NH 03823

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

Valerie Roman
32 Blossom Rd
Wendham NH

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

Panel L. D. Doh
Pelham, NH

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
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Charlotte Lister
PO Box 97
Chester NH 03036

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
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Pamela T. Venable
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209 Abbot Hill Rd.
Wilton, NH, 03096

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
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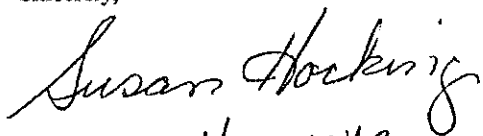
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SUSAN HOCKING
11 COCHRAN LN
WALPOLE, NH 03608

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Jerry L. Connor

1 Lance Ave.

Lowlanderry, NH

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
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Colleen Kershaw

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9 Heartside Drive

Nashua, NH 03063

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
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Rep. Dymally
Hills 28 - Nashua

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
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Sincerely,

Carol K. Wyndham
36 Union St.
Peterborough, NH 03458

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten people oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who have heard about *Citizens United* believe by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ

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Sincerely,

Ernesto Montenegro 67 Summer St. Claremont, NH 03743

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
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Sincerely,

Robert L. Hales
Litchfield NH 03052

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Joanne Emus-Hollis

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
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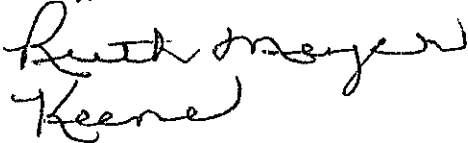
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Ruth Meyer
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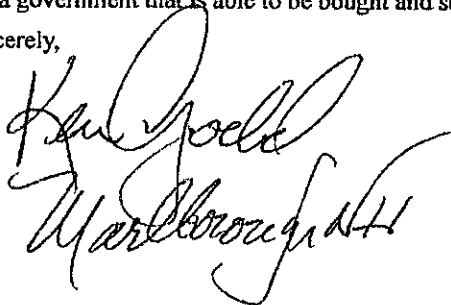
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Sincerely,

Donna Montenegro Donna Montenegro 67 Summer St. Claremont
NH

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

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Sincerely,



Elsa Voelcker
97 Old Pound Rd
Antrim, NH 03440

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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George T Embley
Webster

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
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Concord, NH 03301

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Sally Cozswell Embley
Webster NH

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RWASHUA

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Statehouse, Room 302
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James A. Kydrall
Washua NH

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten people oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who have heard about *Citizens United* believe by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ

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Harriet W. Kuzdshall
Nashua NH

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
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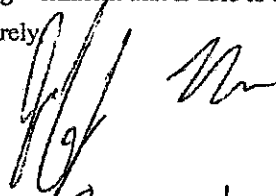
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Sincerely



Rocksmith, NH.

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Sincerely,

Susan Vallier

Susan Vallier

136 Lenny Lane

Hudson, NH 03051

svallier@aol.com

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Statehouse, Room 302
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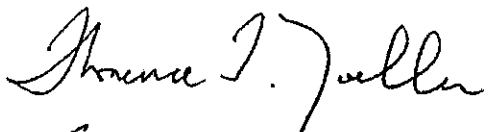
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Sincerely,


Florence T. Zoeller
33 Windham Rd
Derry, NH. 03038

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Statehouse, Room 302
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Concord, NH 03301

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Elizabeth Jves
4 Field Rd
Derry, N.H. 03038

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Sincerely,

Russell Prescott
& Atlant Schmidt

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11 Pope
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The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
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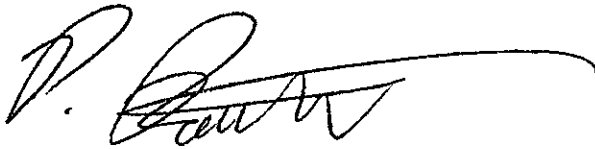
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26 Williams St.
Nashua, NH 03060

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26 B Williams St
Nashua NH

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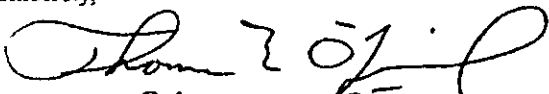
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3 Pleasant St
Dorville NH 03819

Thomas E O'Neill

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Barbara Hall Richardson

197 Water St Keene, NH 03431

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
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107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I am concerned about the impact of the *Citizens United* ruling on our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are opposed to the *Citizens United* ruling. This is not a partisan issue. Republican and Democrat alike believe by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 61% Republicans) is an amendment that limits campaign contribution

We are already seeing these negative effects. Outside spending on *Citizens United* rose 427% in the 2010 election cycle, and \$1.25 billion in outside money was spent to influence

New Hampshire has not been immune from this trend. In the 2010 gubernatorial race, outside groups spent \$19 million - almost 5 times what the candidates spent.

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes the need for a committee to review and make recommendations on campaign finance reform. There is important and worthy disagreement on the issue. Creating a committee allows informed actors to discuss the issue from one certain approach.

Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported this legislation. Republican State Senator Youngblood introduced SB 307.

Outside spending can have dramatic effects on election results. A candidate who was outspent 2 to 1.^{viii} This trend has threatened by large outside spenders.

I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, to support this legislation with strong bipartisan support and join in the creation of a government that is able to be bought and sold.

Sincerely,

Diane Freckler

20 Lock St

Nashua NH 03081

AMENDMINTS
In your coffee, tea, milk, on fruit or out of the jar. Warm some for a few minutes in the microwave.

Money is not speech.
Corporations are not people.
Honest elections
create honest laws.
Support the
Constitutional Amendment.

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amendmint@yahoo.com

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Produced by *It's Arthur's Fault!*
Label by Stielmandline Design, Inc.

Citizens United ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to influence the outcome of an election, a devastating blow to our democracy.

Most people oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*. In a recent survey, we heard about *Citizens United* believe by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 61% Republicans) is an amendment that limits campaign contribution

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Sincerely,

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten people oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who have heard about *Citizens United* believe by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ

We are already seeing these negative effects in our electoral process. Reported spending by outside groups empowered by *Citizens United* rose 427% in the 2010 election cycle, reaching \$294.2 million.^{iv} According to the Center for Responsive Politics, more than \$1.25 billion in outside money was spent to influence voters nationwide during the 2012 election.^v

New Hampshire has not been immune from this type of spending. In the 2012 New Hampshire gubernatorial race, outside groups spent \$19 million - almost 5 times what the candidates spent themselves.^{vi}

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes a need for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and establishes a committee to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which amendment to support. There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* should state. Creating a committee allows informed actors to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach.

Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported similar legislation throughout the nation, including in Maine, where Republican State Senator Youngblood introduced a measure that passed 25 to 9 in the Maine Senate and 111 to 33 in their House.^{vii}

Outside spending can have dramatic effects on races on both sides of the aisle. In the recent Virginia governor race, the Republican candidate was outspent 2 to 1.^{viii} This trend has been mirrored nationally this year,^{ix} and candidates on both sides are increasingly threatened by large outside spenders.

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Sincerely,

Paul Shea

102 Tolles St

Nashua, NH 03064

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

Fred Amos
Business Rep
Greenfield, NH 03047

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,


7 Shattuck St.
Nashua, NH 03064

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

Dylan Fister
Rethorborough

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,



Portsmouth, NH

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

David Renny
301 Southfield Ln
Petersborough NH 03458

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

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Sincerely,

Ginny Schneider
Henriques

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

Dorothy Penny
Peterborough, NH

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

Nancy Manojan
Wash, NH

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The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten people oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who have heard about *Citizens United* believe by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ

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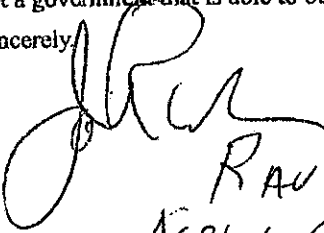
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I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire to join this progression in passing this legislation with strong bipartisan support and joining the growing national call for a nation that is governed of, by and for the people, not a government that is able to be bought and sold by special interests.

Sincerely,


Rault
New Castle

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

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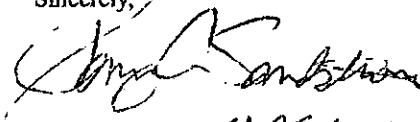
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NH SAHCA

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

Rick Bowser Lyne

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

Lucie Bancroft, Esq.

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

Maureen Mann, Rep.
Rockingham 32

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Sincerely,

Michael Bradford
Bradford, NH

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
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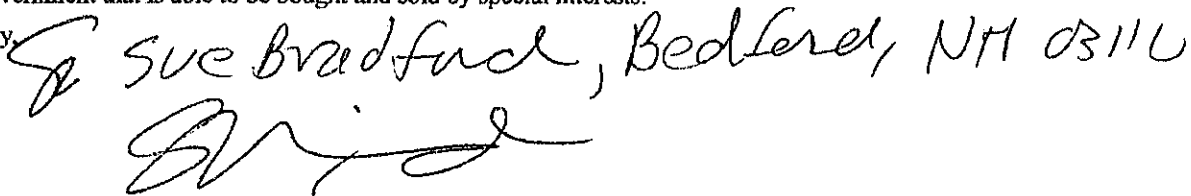
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Sincerely,

 Sue Bradford, Bedford, NH 03110

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
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Hamel Parsons

RINDGE

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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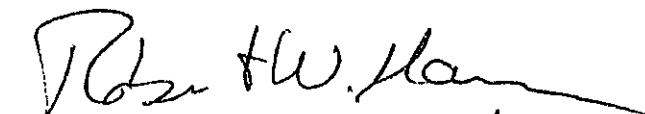
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Deerfield NH

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
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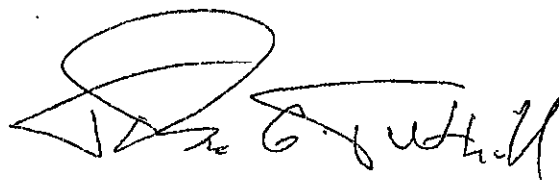
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Acworth, W.H.
03601

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Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
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Sincerely,


STAFFORD

Maianne O'Connor
oconnor@ashua.edu

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse, Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

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Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten people oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who have heard about *Citizens United* believe by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ

We are already seeing these negative effects in our electoral process. Reported spending by outside groups empowered by *Citizens United* rose 427% in the 2010 election cycle, reaching \$294.2 million.^{iv} According to the Center for Responsive Politics, more than \$1.25 billion in outside money was spent to influence voters nationwide during the 2012 election.^v

New Hampshire has not been immune from this type of spending. In the 2012 New Hampshire gubernatorial race, outside groups spent \$19 million - almost 5 times what the candidates spent themselves.^{vi}

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes a need for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and establishes a committee to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which amendment to support. There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* should state. Creating a committee allows informed actors to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach.

Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported similar legislation throughout the nation, including in Maine, where Republican State Senator Youngblood introduced a measure that passed 25 to 9 in the Maine Senate and 111 to 33 in their House.^{vii}

Outside spending can have dramatic effects on races on both sides of the aisle. In the recent Virginia governor race, the Republican candidate was outspent 2 to 1.^{viii} This trend has been mirrored nationally this year,^{ix} and candidates on both sides are increasingly threatened by large outside spenders.

I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire to join this progression in passing this legislation with strong bipartisan support and joining the growing national call for a nation that is governed of, by and for the people, not a government that is able to be bought and sold by special interests.

Sincerely,

Brenda L. Rowman / 79 South Road, Londonderry NH 03053

Brenda L. Rowman.

835 French Pond Road
North Haverhill, NH 03774

The Honorable Russell Prescott
Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

5 February 2014

Testimony in Support of S.B. 307 an Act Establishing a Committee to Review *Citizens United* Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307. The *Citizens United* ruling allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy.

The vast majority of the American people are outraged by the Court's ruling. Eight in ten respondents oppose the court's ruling in *Citizens United*ⁱ. This is not a partisan issue. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who had heard about *Citizens United* believed by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱⁱ Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported similar legislation throughout the nation, including in Maine, where Republican State Senator Youngblood introduced a measure that passed 25 to 9 in the Maine Senate and 111 to 33 in their House.^{iv}

We are already seeing these negative effects in our electoral process. Reported spending by outside groups empowered by *Citizens United* rose 427% in the 2010 election cycle, reaching \$294.2 million.^v According to the Center for Responsive Politics, more than \$1.25 billion in outside money was spent to influence voters nationwide during the 2012 election.^{vi}

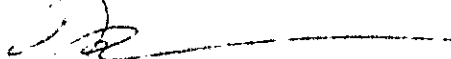
New Hampshire has not been immune from this type of spending. In the 2012 New Hampshire gubernatorial race, outside groups spent \$19 million - almost 5 times what the candidates spent themselves.^{vii}

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes a need for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and establishes a committee to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which amendment to support. There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* should state. Creating a committee allows informed actors to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach.

Outside spending can have dramatic effects on races on both sides of the aisle. In the recent Virginia governor race, the Republican candidate was outspent 2 to 1.^{viii} This trend has been mirrored nationally this year,^{ix} and candidates on both sides are increasingly threatened by large outside spenders.

I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire to join this progression in passing this legislation with strong bipartisan support and joining the growing national call for a nation that is governed of, by and for the people, not a government that is able to be bought and sold by special interests, potentially not even of American origin.

Sincerely,



✓ Jeremy E. Thompson

The Honorable Russell Prescott

Chair, Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs
Statehouse
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Senator Prescott:

As a citizen of the State of New Hampshire, I write in support of SB 307.

The *Citizens United* ruling has resulted in the ability of corporations and unions to exert undue influence to promote or defeat candidates and has dealt a devastating blow to our democracy. In addition, since a corporation can essentially 'plead the fifth amendment' and choose to not disclose details about their activities, this ruling has prevented the public at large from accessing information that impacts the health and safety of our communities and our children.

Based on several surveys, a large majority of Americans people strongly disapprove of the Supreme Court's ruling. This is a bipartisan issue with eight out of ten respondents opposing the *Citizens United* decision. Republicans, Democrats and Independents who had heard about *Citizens United* believed by a significant margin (almost 4 to 1) that the ruling is having a negative effect.ⁱ Similarly, in New Hampshire 72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱ

We are already seeing these negative effects in both legislative behavior and in our electoral process. At both the community and state levels representatives are told that corporations will file suit if their *individual rights* are violated?! Reported spending by outside groups empowered by *Citizens United* rose 427% in the 2010 election cycle, reaching \$294.2 million.ⁱⁱⁱ According to the Center for Responsive Politics, more than \$1.25 billion in outside money was spent to influence voters nationwide during the 2012 election.^{iv}

New Hampshire has not been immune from this type of spending. In the 2012 New Hampshire gubernatorial race, outside groups spent \$19 million - almost 5 times what the candidates spent themselves.^v

SB 307 is common sense legislation that recognizes a need for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and establishes a committee to review and make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which amendment to support. This is not recommended lightly. There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* should state. This must clearly be done with care. Creating a committee allows informed actors to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach.

This is not a partisan issue. Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported similar legislation throughout the nation, including in Maine, where Republican State Senator Youngblood introduced a measure that passed 25 to 9 in the Maine Senate and 111 to 33 in their House.^{vi}

Outside spending can have dramatic effects on races on both sides of the aisle. In the recent Virginia governor race, the Republican candidate was outspent 2 to 1.^{vii} This trend has been mirrored nationally this year^{viii}. Regardless of party affiliation; candidates and office holders are at the same time made less effective and threatened by large outside spenders.

I am encouraging you, The Honorable Senator Prescott, and The State of New Hampshire to join this progression in passing this legislation with strong bipartisan support and joining the growing national call for a nation that is governed of, by and for the people, not a government that is able to be bought and sold by special interests.

¹ Pew Research Center (17 Jan 2012). "Super PACs Having Negative Impact, Say Voters Aware of 'Citizens United' Ruling." Retrieved 18 January, 2012, from <http://www.people-press.org/2012/01/17/super-pacs-having-negative-impact-say-voters-aware-of-citizens-united-ruling/>.

² Public Citizen's analysis of Federal Election Commission (FEC) data. See Congress Watch (January 2011). "12 Months After: The Effects of *Citizens United* on Elections and the Integrity of the Legislative Process." Retrieved 15 Sept, 2011, from <http://www.citizen.org/documents/Citizens-United-20110113.pdf>.

³ Center for Responsive Politics. "Outside Spending." Retrieved 7 November, 2012, from <http://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/index.php>

⁴ Zach Azem, M.A., Andrew E. Smith, Ph.D., The Survey Center, University of New Hampshire (18 Apr 2013) Granite State Poll, Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.united4thepeople.org/images/NHpoll.pdf>

⁵ Coalition for Open Democracy, "The Need for Full Disclosure Now: New Hampshire Citizens Must Regain the Right to Know Who is Bankrolling Their Elections" Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.coalitionforopendemocracy.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/cod8pgdisclosurefinaldec17.pdf>

⁶ Maine Citizens for Clean Elections (April 30, 2013) "Maine Legislature Calls on Congress to Pass Constitutional Amendment to Reverse Citizens United" Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from https://www.mainecleanelections.org/sites/default/files/press_releases/2013/130430_MCCE_PressRelease_LegPassesCAResolution_State.pdf

⁷ Evan Halper, *Los Angeles Times* (5 Nov 2013) Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.latimes.com/nation/politics/politicsnow/la-pn-democrats-gop-virginia-governor-election-20131105,0,2396386.story#axzz2iPGYLRQg>

⁸ Fredreka Schouten, *USA Today* (13 Nov 2013) "Pro-Democratic super PACs outspend conservatives." Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2013/11/11/liberal-super-pacs-and-dark-money-groups-outspend-conservatives-in-2013-races/3495983#axzz2iPGYLRQg>

**TESTIMONY OF PETER A. WHITE TO NH SENATE RULES,
ENROLLED BILLS, AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE IN
SUPPORT OF S.B. 307**

March 4, 2014

Hello, my name is Peter White and I live in Nottingham NH. I am the sponsor of a petitioned Town Meeting article asking the State Legislature to pass a Resolution to Congress in support of the Constitutional amendment needed to overturn the Supreme Court's "Citizens United" decision of 2010.

I have been working for campaign finance reform for decades and many of us are following in the footsteps of "Granny D" Doris Haddock. Over 50 towns across New Hampshire have petitioned town meeting articles this year, over 500 municipalities across the Nation have passed similar Resolutions, and 16 states so far have sent resolutions to Congress.

There is widespread support to overturn "Citizens United". A New Hampshire poll shows support by a 3 to 1 margin of Democrats, Republicans, and independents – the natural, living, breathing kind of citizens that our Founders were thinking of. In January hundreds of people were involved in a march from Dixville Notch to Nashua to bring attention to this "money politics" system of elections.

I went to a conference about this at Harvard over a year ago attended by everyone from the Tea Party to the Green Party, Democrats, Republicans, and Libertarians. Some Constitutional law professors spoke in favor of this amendment. The large majority of those present agreed that We the People have to take this action to take back our republic from special interests!

You can help provide leadership for the people of New Hampshire by supporting Senate Bill 307. This movement will help to empower millions of REAL citizens across the country that will have to become informed and involved in order to pass this 28th amendment to our Constitution.

Senate Bill 307 is an important step in the legislative process to develop a Constitutional amendment that will be a GIANT LEAP for our democracy! This could be history in the making! Thank you for your efforts.

Testimony by John Friede, Director, Worldview (Peterborough, NH)

Submitted to: Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs Committee

Date: March 4, 2014

RE: SB 307

My name is John Friede. I am a resident of Peterborough. As director of Worldview, a Peterborough-based non-profit organization that promotes local self-reliance, I strongly urge all of the members of the Rules, Enrolled Bills & Internal Affairs Committee to support Senate Bill 307 calling for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and related cases.

The 2010 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens United vs FEC* opened the floodgates to unlimited corporate spending on elections. In order to influence voters in 2012, special interest groups, mostly from outside NH, spent five times what our state candidates did on their own campaigns. Nationally, total 2012 election spending was 3 times the level seen in 2010, which itself was double the previous high.

A 2013 UNH poll conducted on behalf of several non-partisan groups (which included NH-based Coalition for Open Democracy), showed strong support for overturning *Citizens United* by big majorities of both parties, and among independents. Back in 2010 former NH Senator Warren Rudman writing in the Washington Post said, "Supreme Court opinion notwithstanding, corporations are not defined as people under the Constitution, and free speech can hardly be called free when only the rich are heard."

Most elected officials within both parties acknowledge that they spend between 30-70% of their time raising money instead of governing. Not only is this time not devoted to the people's business, it might also be fair to conclude that these large funders exert undue influence on the legislative process.

Just a few weeks ago, a group of New Hampshire residents marched across the state to rid elections of the corrupting influence of unlimited, secret donations. Currently, there are at least 53 New Hampshire towns that will soon vote at their town meetings on an amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and related cases.

Amending the Constitution to restore the power of the people over corporations will not be easy, but correcting the Supreme Court is imperative to the progress of New Hampshire and our nation. This bill is a positive step in that direction and receives my full support.

Thank you,

John Friede

Dear The New Hampshire State Senate,

We are pleased to present you with this petition affirming this statement:

"We, the people of New Hampshire, understand that our elections are not for sale.

We stand united with Senator Prescott in supporting S.B. 307. S.B. 307 creates a committee to review and support a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United. "

Attached is a list of individuals who have added their names to this petition, as well as additional comments written by the petition signers themselves.

Sincerely,
Pat Fiero

Jennifer Matney
Newmarket, NH 03857
Feb 4, 2014

The repeal of the Court decision is long overdue. NH citizens should finance their own elections.

Thomas H. Campbell
Littleton, NH 03561
Feb 3, 2014

Dwight Haynes
Concord, NH 03301-8421
Jan 28, 2014

Tom Mongeon
Hampton, NH 03842
Jan 28, 2014

B Carolyn
Hampstead, NH 03841
Jan 27, 2014

Elaine Hechtl
New Boston, NH 03070
Jan 27, 2014

Jerome Frost
Hampton, NH 03842
Jan 26, 2014

linda barber
maplewood, MN 55109
Jan 26, 2014

christian velazquez
millville, NJ 08332
Jan 26, 2014

Citizen United along with other similar rulings back in history must go.

Lester Fowler
Suisun, CA 94585
Jan 25, 2014

Brian
Nipomo, CA 93444
Jan 24, 2014

Nathan Winslow
Deerfield, NH 03037-1308
Jan 24, 2014

Donna San Antonio
Brookfield, NH 03872
Jan 24, 2014

Karen Ecklund
North Conway, NH 03860
Jan 24, 2014

Joan Bilich
Exeter, NH 03833-1855
Jan 24, 2014

carol knieriem
manchester, NH 03104
Jan 24, 2014

Allen Hearn
Dublin, NH 03444
Jan 24, 2014

Mary Jane Wood
Laconia, NH 03246
Jan 23, 2014

KE DAmore
Pelham, NH 03076
Jan 23, 2014

Mary Paul Howe
Jackson, NH 03846
Jan 23, 2014

anthony
Fremont, NH 03044
Jan 23, 2014

Jacqueline Payne
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 23, 2014

Vicki Flynn
Whitefield, NH 03598
Jan 23, 2014

Jo
Rye, NH 03870
Jan 23, 2014

Catherine Greeley
New Castle, NH 03854
Jan 22, 2014

Janet Krueger
Newbury, NH 03255
Jan 22, 2014

Paula King
Harrisville, NH 03450
Jan 22, 2014

Betty Clemons
Bedford, NH 03110-6126
Jan 22, 2014

Thanks Sen. Prescott :)

Amy moskwa
Goffstown, NH 03045
Jan 22, 2014

dan haines
contocook, NH 03229
Jan 22, 2014

Robert McElwain
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 22, 2014

Philip M. Johnson
Durham, NH 03824
Jan 22, 2014

Joseph
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 22, 2014

John Wiley
Seabrook, NH 03874
Jan 22, 2014

Corporations are NOT people!

Christie Sarles
Tuftonboro, NH 03853
Jan 22, 2014

Bob Sirois
Salem, NH 03079
Jan 22, 2014

Senator Prescott, I'm a voter in your district. The negative impact of Citizens United becomes more clear and more destructive to a fair political process. Please support this bill.

Stephanie Marshall
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 22, 2014

Ann Verow
Campton, NH 03223
Jan 22, 2014

Corporations are NOT people. Please stop this before we elect our first corporation as President!

Nancy Vawter
PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801
Jan 22, 2014

Ezra Landis
Jaffrey, NH 03452
Jan 22, 2014

Richard Katz
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 22, 2014

pip richens
hanover, NH 03755
Jan 22, 2014

Nancy Withey
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 22, 2014

Kenneth Curley
Northwood, NH 03261
Jan 22, 2014

Emma
Milton, NH 03851
Jan 21, 2014

Susan Yakutis
South Effingham, NH 03882
Jan 21, 2014

Kristin Nowak
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 21, 2014

Darqo
Nashua, NH 03062
Jan 21, 2014

Sally Muri
Wilton, NH 03086
Jan 21, 2014

Bruce Flower
Pembroke, NH 03275
Jan 21, 2014

Cynthia Klein
Hillsborough, NH 03244
Jan 21, 2014

Kieron Walsh
Dublin, NH 03444
Jan 21, 2014

Paul E Spencer
Lee, NH 03861
Jan 21, 2014

Aleisa Farrington
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 21, 2014

Michael Dater
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

José Galante
Mexico City, NH 03720
Jan 21, 2014

Antoinette Trotzer
Hampton, NH 03842
Jan 21, 2014

Susan Anderson
Rye, NH 03870
Jan 21, 2014

Leia French
Laconia, NH 03246
Jan 21, 2014

Gregory Descoteaux
Londonderry, NH 03053
Jan 21, 2014

Shirley Lakin
NH, NH 03885
Jan 21, 2014

Dixie
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

Pete Morin
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

Steven C Henricks MD
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 21, 2014

Joanne Holman
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

Chuck Conn
Moultonborough, NH 03254
Jan 21, 2014

Eliza Hobson
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

Kathy McMahan
Londonderry, NH 03053
Jan 21, 2014

Elizabeth A Trought
Dorchester, NH 03266
Jan 21, 2014

Jonathan Hall
Kemsington, NH 03833
Jan 21, 2014

virginia heard
sandwich, NH 03227
Jan 21, 2014

Charlotte Furstenberg
Lyme, NH 03768
Jan 21, 2014

Suzanne Huggard
Deering, NH 03244
Jan 21, 2014

Robin Lehman
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

Clark Reed
Elkins, NH 03233-0132
Jan 21, 2014

Lauren Warner
Deering, NH 03244
Jan 21, 2014

We think it's time.

Sal & Stella Santoro
Sunapee, NH 03782
Jan 21, 2014

Kent Hackmann
Andover, NH 03216-4161
Jan 21, 2014

Melvin Harris
Rochester, NH 03867
Jan 21, 2014

Nicole Burns
Atkinson, NH 03811

Jan 21, 2014

Robert K. Naylor
Newport, NH 03773
Jan 21, 2014

Marguerite Mathews
Durham, NH 03824
Jan 21, 2014

GEORGE THOMPSON
Wilton, NH 03086
Jan 21, 2014

Susan Schmidt
Nashua, NH 03062
Jan 21, 2014

Jo panasci
South Danville, NH 03819
Jan 21, 2014

John Sutherland
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

Justin Miller
Londonderry, NH 03038
Jan 21, 2014

Kevin McKaig
United States 03276-5314
Jan 21, 2014

Yolande Klein
Windham, NH 03087
Jan 21, 2014

Pauline Boggis
Milford, NH 03055
Jan 21, 2014

liz mulholland
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 21, 2014

lyle jensen
Stoddard, NH 03464
Jan 21, 2014

Norman P Fournier
Manchester, NH 03102
Jan 21, 2014

Catherine Hevesh
Sandown, NH 03873
Jan 21, 2014

Thank you and please support this bill

Josh Arnold
Ossipee, NH 03864
Jan 21, 2014

Michelle Keaney
Derry, NH 03038
Jan 21, 2014

We need to obliterate this up democratic decision. Please support S.B. 307.

Mary Lee Sargent
Bow, NH 03304
Jan 21, 2014

Karen Burgess Smith
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 21, 2014

June Fichter
Newbury, NH 03255
Jan 21, 2014

Roy Wright
Orange, NH 03741
Jan 21, 2014

Democracy is not to be bought or sold. It is our precious heritage; liberty and justice depend upon a foundation of true democratic principles. A few wealthy people (aka corporations) should not govern the United States.

Paul B. Shagoury
Bow, NH 03304
Jan 21, 2014

greg gilman
Lebanon, NH 03766
Jan 21, 2014

Thomas Westheimer
Peterborough, NH 03458
Jan 21, 2014

Mary Ann Toy
Chichester, NH 03258
Jan 21, 2014

E Weiner
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 21, 2014

Albert Jacobson
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 21, 2014

Dianne Vogt
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 21, 2014

Corporations are not citizens. I support the Constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United.

Susan M. Deschenes
Amherst, NH 03031
Jan 21, 2014

Elizabeth Hart
Freedom, NH 03836
Jan 21, 2014

Stephen Waters
Deering, NH 03244
Jan 21, 2014

Citizens United was a terrible ruling. The Supreme Court has been wrong before and they are definitely way off the mark this time.

Andrew Major
Henniker, NH 03242
Jan 21, 2014

Walter Masten
Nashua, NH 03060
Jan 21, 2014

timothy leahy
monroe, NH 03771
Jan 21, 2014

jessica charon
plymouth, NH 03264
Jan 21, 2014

Ann Robb
Northwood, NH 03261
Jan 21, 2014

Joseph Desruisseaux
Rindge, NH 03461
Jan 21, 2014

paul laliberte
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

Christopher Mogridge
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 21, 2014

Mary Murphy
Troy, NH 03465-0540
Jan 21, 2014

Anne Huberman
Sharon, NH 03458
Jan 21, 2014

Frank Weber
Mt Vernon, NH 03057
Jan 21, 2014

Ana Guzman
Mason, NH 03048
Jan 21, 2014

Art Maerlender
Wilmot, NH 03287
Jan 21, 2014

Jennifer HARRISES
Manchester, NH 03104
Jan 21, 2014

John LaPointe
Weare, NH 03281
Jan 21, 2014

suny kravitz
hampton, NH 03842
Jan 21, 2014

Mike Dillon
Manchester, NH 03104
Jan 21, 2014

jack karp
bartlett, NH 03812
Jan 21, 2014

Barbara McElroy
Rumney, NH 03266
Jan 21, 2014

Dominic Guerriero
DANVILLE, NH 03819
Jan 21, 2014

Brad Greeley
New Castle, NH 03854
Jan 21, 2014

Susan C Robinson
Goffstown, NH 03045
Jan 21, 2014

Corporations are NOT people! They are legal entities which have NO VOTE - only money. One person = one vote ONLY! Please stop the wholesale SALE of our government. It's past time to get the money OUT of politics. I say go for public funding of elections since the public pays for everything anyway, this way the politicians can Finally go back to working for their citizens instead of the highest bidder.

Maryann Lobello
Penacook, NH 03303
Jan 21, 2014

Gregory Hollands
MANCHESTER, NH 03104
Jan 21, 2014

Laura Cooley
Orford, NH 03777
Jan 21, 2014

Colleen Jordan
tufonboro, NH 03816
Jan 21, 2014

melody houston
Nashua, NH 03060
Jan 21, 2014

John Gregg
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

Barbara Gregg
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

Barbara Hilton
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

I was very upset when I found out about 6 years ago that the business community for inside and outside of our state are in Concord telling our NH Republican Senators and Legislature what bills they want to come before our??? Legislature. This is WRONG and it needs to stop!!!

Shirley LaPoint
Ashuelot, NH 03441
Jan 21, 2014

AND we hope our representatives are not for sale either

Benjamin Fordham
Campton, NH 03223
Jan 21, 2014

Mark Aubin
Weare, NH 03281
Jan 21, 2014

Holly Sullivan
Nashua, NH 03060
Jan 21, 2014

Alexander Adams
Pinardville, NH 03102
Jan 21, 2014

Charmaine Hildebrand
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

Robert Sargent
Salem, NH 03079-2498

Jan 21, 2014

Gerald J. Ouellette
Plymouth, NH 03264
Jan 21, 2014

Charlene Seibel
Wolfeboro, NH 03894
Jan 21, 2014

Timothy Milde
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 21, 2014

As a small state we are especially susceptible to moneyed outside interests.

David R Dick
Nashua, NH 03063
Jan 21, 2014

James Caley
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 21, 2014

Donna Baker-Hartwell
East Andover, NH 03231
Jan 21, 2014

marsha richelli
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 21, 2014

When civil power is taken from its citizens and put in the hands of very wealthy giving them extravagant measures to secure their wealth and power in government you begin the deconstruction of the Republic.

Robert Druchniak
Tuftonboro, NH 03816
Jan 21, 2014

Russell
Durham, NH 03824
Jan 21, 2014

Eric
Milford, NH 03055
Jan 21, 2014

Gina frey
Manchester, NH 03104

Jan 21, 2014

Tom McDonald
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 21, 2014

Katie Bowler
Merrimack, NH 03054
Jan 21, 2014

Andra Candow
Manchester, NH 03103
Jan 21, 2014

Thank you for your support of Sb 307.

Peggy Ghiloni
Londonderry, NH 03053
Jan 21, 2014

Robert Lemelin
Rye, NH 03870
Jan 21, 2014

Peter Thomas
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 21, 2014

Thomas Solter
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 21, 2014

john lemay
Manchester, NH 03103
Jan 21, 2014

Marsha Scott
Glenciff, NH 03238
Jan 21, 2014

We have some of the best politicians MONEY CAN BUY! It's wayyy past time that this ridiculous "Citizens United" front be made HISTORY!!!

Gary Morris
Manchester, NH 03101
Jan 21, 2014

Melanie Cynthia Stringer
Manchester, NH 03104

Jan 21, 2014

Berthold Horn
Chatham, NH 03813
Jan 20, 2014

Jeremy Thompson
North Haverhill, NH 03774-4727
Jan 20, 2014

Craig Nevins
Warner, NH 03278
Jan 20, 2014

Kenneth Shewmaker
hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Alex Binder
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

Arthur Pinkerton
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Kevin weeks
Raymond, NH 03077
Jan 20, 2014

Gordon Lang
Ossipee, NH 03864
Jan 20, 2014

Sylvia Foster
Durham, NH 03824
Jan 20, 2014

Charles Arnold
Manchester, NH 03105
Jan 20, 2014

VL
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

Joyce Bryant
Wolfeboro Falls, NH 03896
Jan 20, 2014

Tom Lonquist
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

John Lawrence
Pelham, NH 03076
Jan 20, 2014

Neil J. Lewis
Nashua, NH 03060
Jan 20, 2014

Majid Charmchi
Windham, NH 03087
Jan 20, 2014

Mary & Baron Richardson
Chester, NH 03036
Jan 20, 2014

Stanley E. Piper
Gilford, New Hampshire 03249, NH 03249
Jan 20, 2014

Gary Hodges
Amherst, NH 03031
Jan 20, 2014

Arthur Bjork
Salem, NH 03079
Jan 20, 2014

Denise Brown
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

Live Free or Die

Stephanie Curcio
Londonderry, NH 03053
Jan 20, 2014

Corporations have us in a stranglehold and it is injustice at it's height!!!

Elizabeth Burns
Bedford, NH 03110
Jan 20, 2014

Elizabeth Kantz
Webster, NH 03303
Jan 20, 2014

Joseph Lattke
Nashua, NH 03062
Jan 20, 2014

David Berube
Gilford, NH 03249
Jan 20, 2014

Patrice Pinette
Wilton, NH 03086
Jan 20, 2014

robert stewart
rochester, NH 03867
Jan 20, 2014

kate willis
Conway, NH 03818
Jan 20, 2014

G A Pratt
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Judith Wagner
Gilmanton, NH 03237
Jan 20, 2014

Evan Fulmer
Merrimack, NH 03054
Jan 20, 2014

Ted O'Brien
Sharon, NH 03458
Jan 20, 2014

Robert
Bedford, NH 03110
Jan 20, 2014

Citizens United is an abomination of democracy. It should be overturned.

Bruce Stern
LONDONDERRY, NH 03053

Jan 20, 2014

Patricia Wonson
Newton, NH 03858
Jan 20, 2014

Suzan Davis
Derry, NH 03038
Jan 20, 2014

Leslie Fredette
Goffstown, NH 03045
Jan 20, 2014

Arnie Arnesen
concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Robert Olcott
Lebanon, NH 03766
Jan 20, 2014

Corporations are not people. End corporate personhood

Michael Derhammer
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

Richard LeBlanc
Rochester, NH 03867-2401
Jan 20, 2014

Mary Weaver
Merrimack, NH 03054
Jan 20, 2014

Richard LeBlanc
Rochester, NH 03867-2401
Jan 20, 2014

Nancy Brigham
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 20, 2014

Kelley Goodwin
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Susan Shamel
Hilolsborough, NH 03244
Jan 20, 2014

Susan Covert
Contoocook, NH 03229
Jan 20, 2014

Julia Kerr
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 20, 2014

Jessica
Gilmanton, NH 03237
Jan 20, 2014

Pat
Lee, NH 03861
Jan 20, 2014

John Colburn
Manchester, NH 03103
Jan 20, 2014

Jane Pinel
Hillsborough, NH 03244
Jan 20, 2014

sarah Day
Wolfeboro, NH 03894
Jan 20, 2014

Craig S. Morton
Pittsfield, NH 03263
Jan 20, 2014

Sandra Gagnon
Pinardville, NH 03102
Jan 20, 2014

Susan Harubin
Tuftonboro, NH 03816
Jan 20, 2014

Fred Robinson
Goffstown, NH 03045
Jan 20, 2014

Christopher Williams
Meredith, NH 03253
Jan 20, 2014

Marsha
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

pat wilczynski
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Mohammad Saleem Yusuf
Litchfield, NH 03052
Jan 20, 2014

Deborah Kaplafka
Nashua, NH 03063
Jan 20, 2014

Mike Higgins
Meriden, NH 03770
Jan 20, 2014

Frank Longo
Londonderry, NH 03053
Jan 20, 2014

Susan Wrightsman
Wolfeboro, NH 03894
Jan 20, 2014

Thank you Senator Prescott.

Richard M O'Donnell
Wolfeboro, NH 03894
Jan 20, 2014

The elections have been co-opted by corporations and ignoring individuals. Elections should be a representation of all the people and not by the money of corporations.

Susan Cohen
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Michael Bartlett
Bow, NH 03304
Jan 20, 2014

Lise Hildebrandt
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Michael G
Litchfield, NH 03052
Jan 20, 2014

Anna carlson
Loudon, NH 03307
Jan 20, 2014

David Heller
Lebanon, NH 03766
Jan 20, 2014

Virginia S Cole
Somersworth, NH 03878
Jan 20, 2014

Big business is not an individual with voting rights!

Daniel St. James
Amherst, NH 03031
Jan 20, 2014

Judee Teichert
Laconia, NH 03246
Jan 20, 2014

John Pelletier
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

Nathaniel Brooks
Nashua, NH 03062
Jan 20, 2014

Sean Laine
Westmoreland, NH 03467
Jan 20, 2014

Lois Little
Colebrook, NH 03576
Jan 20, 2014

Nathan Coolidge
Ashland, NH 03217

Jan 20, 2014

Carol Gouin
Newport, NH 03773
Jan 20, 2014

Charlotte Sanborn
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Jerry Brightman
Canaan, NH 03741
Jan 20, 2014

John Swartz SR
Wilmot Flat, NH 03287
Jan 20, 2014

Jack and Susan Dixon
Candia, NH 03034
Jan 20, 2014

Catharine Farkas
Sanbornton, NH 03269
Jan 20, 2014

Kathleen Thurston
Merrimack, NH 03054
Jan 20, 2014

Greg Patch
Wilmington, NC 28401
Jan 20, 2014

Kelly DeFeo
Center Conway, NH 03813
Jan 20, 2014

Teri White
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Margaret Jernstedt
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Liz McConnell
Brentwood, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

As a Granite Stater I'm concerned- we see that the Koch brothers are already funding a Congressional candidate, Marilinda Garci
<http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2014/01/koch-brothers-candidate-training-recruiting-aegis-strategic> .

Mark King
Nashua, NH 03064
Jan 20, 2014

Kerrie
Tamworth, NH 03886
Jan 20, 2014

stephen bobick
durham, NH 03824
Jan 20, 2014

Karen Alexander
Durham, NH 03824
Jan 20, 2014

Brenda Rubbico
Alton, NH 03809
Jan 20, 2014

Joseph T. Nicholas
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 20, 2014

Shirley Cartwright
Litchfield, NH 03052
Jan 20, 2014

It's time to re-instate the "We, the people!"

Will Thomas
Auburn, NH 03032
Jan 20, 2014

Need take a stand against outside influences in the elections in the State of New Hampshire, please stop this practice. It's not only unhealthy for NH but the country. Take a stand against this practice!

Charles North
Franklin, NH 03235
Jan 20, 2014

TSgt Peter J> Eldredge, USAF (Ret)
Somersworth, NH 03878
Jan 20, 2014

Janet Luongo
Peterborough, NH 03458
Jan 20, 2014

I am standing strong and will fight to overturn this crime against America.

Jim Sheff
wolfeboro, NH 03894
Jan 20, 2014

Rev Jan Grossman
Amherst, NH 03031
Jan 20, 2014

Leon Worthley
Gilford, NH 03249
Jan 20, 2014

Flora Piterak
Atkinson, NH 03811
Jan 20, 2014

Maud Anderson
Tamworth, NH 03886
Jan 20, 2014

Margaret Drobot
Manchester, NH 03102
Jan 20, 2014

Dave smith
N. Sutton, NH 03260
Jan 20, 2014

Ruth Brighton
Kensington, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

ma
Wonalancet., NH 03897
Jan 20, 2014

tim bishop
Hudson, NH 03051
Jan 20, 2014

Karen Anderson
Windham, NH 03087

Jan 20, 2014

Kevin and Susan Frewert
Bedford, NH 03110
Jan 20, 2014

This perversion of the Constitution must end, your assistance in ending it is much appreciated.

John Follansbee
Manchester, NH 03103
Jan 20, 2014

Gregory A Doane
deerfield, NH 03037
Jan 20, 2014

flynn donovan
portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

Marshall Hatch
Sanbornton, NH 03269
Jan 20, 2014

Louise Taylor
Tamworth, NH 03886-0521
Jan 20, 2014

Barbara Jean Wilkinson
Strafford, NH 03884
Jan 20, 2014

Catherine Cauthorne
Hancock, NH 03449
Jan 20, 2014

Rev. Patrick McLaughlin
Manchester, NH 03104
Jan 20, 2014

Tess Smith
Center Barnstead, NH 03225
Jan 20, 2014

Jeff Allen
Rochester, NH 03867
Jan 20, 2014

Ellen
Langdon, NH 03602
Jan 20, 2014

susan scott
new hampshire, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Patrick Aaron Baron
Madison, NH 03849
Jan 20, 2014

Mike Bower
Francestown, NH 03043
Jan 20, 2014

William Wolff
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

Jim Pinard
Hudson, NH 03051
Jan 20, 2014

Tari
Temple, NH 03084
Jan 20, 2014

Tom Diehl
Bristol, NH 03222
Jan 20, 2014

Lynn Chrissis
Windham, NH 03087
Jan 20, 2014

William Palmer
Cornish, NH 03745
Jan 20, 2014

Deborah Zollner
Kensington, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Todd Kerekes
Manchester, NH 03102
Jan 20, 2014

Mardee Samsky
Amherst, NH 03031
Jan 20, 2014

Angela Norton
Newmarket, NH 03857
Jan 20, 2014

Outside money should not influence the outcome of elections in the state of NH. Please support S.B. 307

Sherri Basso
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

patricia kerekes
Manchester, NH 03102
Jan 20, 2014

Elizabeth Harding
Jackson, NH 03846
Jan 20, 2014

Corporations are not people and our democracy is not for sale.

J. Matthew Huyck
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Mary Ashcliffe
Henniker, NH 03242
Jan 20, 2014

Christian Hettinger
Wilton, NH 03086
Jan 20, 2014

Susan Erwin
Hampton, NH 03842
Jan 20, 2014

Eleuthera Paulina du Pont Passigli
Alstead, NH 03602-3206
Jan 20, 2014

Greg Joy
Hudson, NH 03051
Jan 20, 2014

rita pearce
exeter, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Christine Row
Amherst, NH 03031
Jan 20, 2014

Ruth Henderson
Barrington, NH 03825
Jan 20, 2014

Amber Thompson
Groveton, NH 03582
Jan 20, 2014

Harry Young
Jaffrey, NH 03452
Jan 20, 2014

Judith Smith
Wolfeboro, NH 03894
Jan 20, 2014

Steven Frann
Manchester, NH 03104
Jan 20, 2014

George A. Wood
Nashua, NH 03062
Jan 20, 2014

I am a New Hampshire resident, and I am committed to undoing Citizens United, starting with NH SB 307.

michael whitman
Lyme, NH 03768
Jan 20, 2014

schuster deutsch
Manchester, NH 03102
Jan 20, 2014

Annabella Morse
Antrim, NH 03440
Jan 20, 2014

Citizens United is outrageous! Money can be spent on our elections by foreign interests and there is no limit to the amounts US Corporations can contribute. Our forefather's did not want our elections to be swayed by money!

Heather Dunford
EPSOM, NH 03234
Jan 20, 2014

I'm grateful for the chance to help start this much needed process.

Nancy Johnson
Durham, NH 03824
Jan 20, 2014

karen m white
sandown, NH 03873
Jan 20, 2014

Steve
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

Lawrie Barr
Francestown, NH 03043-0008
Jan 20, 2014

Judy Budge
East Andover, NH 03231
Jan 20, 2014

Kim Elliman
Hooksett, NH 03106
Jan 20, 2014

Maurice Hamann
Nashua, NH 03064
Jan 20, 2014

ckris wallenstein
bennington, NH 03442
Jan 20, 2014

Bruce Fitzpatrick
Rochester, NH 03867
Jan 20, 2014

William Gould
New Boston, NH 03070

Jan 20, 2014

Thomas Ellestad
Manchester, NH 03102
Jan 20, 2014

Priscilla LaBranche
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

Michael
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

susan e dowe
Derry, NH 03038
Jan 20, 2014

Mr David Hunt Gundy
Bedford, NH 03110
Jan 20, 2014

John Karol
Orford, NH 03777
Jan 20, 2014

john kemp
exeter, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Peaco Todd
Chocorua, NH 03817
Jan 20, 2014

gabriele hollnd
strafford, NH 03884
Jan 20, 2014

this
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Votes are not for sale..

Lynn Hand
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

I couldn't agree more. I encourage you to sign S.B. 307. Thank you.

Steve McPhee
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

barbara dill
durham, NH 03824
Jan 20, 2014

paul Daniello
Swanzey, NH 03446
Jan 20, 2014

Nancy Pape
Madbury, NH 03823
Jan 20, 2014

Rachel Cilley
Madbury, NH 03823
Jan 20, 2014

Alfred Lapitino
Warner, NH 03278
Jan 20, 2014

Curran G. Davis
Laconia, NH 03246
Jan 20, 2014

Joseph Dreier
Lebanon, NH 03766
Jan 20, 2014

Even the title of the ruling was a deception, "Citizens United"

Peter Urquhart
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

We should not permit political ads, speeches, interviews on TV or radio within two weeks of an election. If people want to go out to a gathering, that is their choice, but public airwaves should not be for sale.

Abigail Beutler
Nashua, NH 03063
Jan 20, 2014

Sally
Jaffrey, NH 03452
Jan 20, 2014

Kathryn
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Pamela A. Turner
Sanbornville, NH 03872
Jan 20, 2014

selma w. singer
Kingston, NH 03848-3508
Jan 20, 2014

Wesley Tiku
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Anne Armstrong
Manchester, NH 03104
Jan 20, 2014

patrick redmond
strafford, NH 03884
Jan 20, 2014

In my opinion, this is the worst decision ever made by the SCOTUS.

Arthur Bradbury
Lee, NH 03861
Jan 20, 2014

David Bundrick
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 20, 2014

John Planchak
Derry, NH 03038
Jan 20, 2014

Pauline Kislik
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Briane M. Pinkson
Cornish, NH 03745

Jan 20, 2014

James G. Pappas
Chichester, NH 03258
Jan 20, 2014

Contributions to candidates must have no favors or strings attached. All votes on every issue are useless if voting is skewed to the wants of those who buy favors.

Marilyn Greenspan
Merrimack, NH 03054
Jan 20, 2014

Paula VanBuskirk
Seabrook, NH 03874
Jan 20, 2014

arnold burdick
warner, NH 03278
Jan 20, 2014

gerry coffey
Hollis, NH 03049
Jan 20, 2014

carmelita moe
andover, NH 03216
Jan 20, 2014

Lisa Marcello
Raymond, NH 03077
Jan 20, 2014

Anne Clune
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Nancy Bodwell
Londonderry, NH 03053
Jan 20, 2014

DONALD BURGESS
DERRY, NH 03038
Jan 20, 2014

S.B. 307 meaning NH S.B. 307, yes. We MUST do this. With ever more wealth accumulating in ever fewer hands, the free speech of ordinary citizens cannot otherwise keep up with the paid speech of the wealthy, and Democracy will fail.

Kent Pitman
Surry, NH 03431
Jan 20, 2014

Rowe Taro
Raymond, NH 03077
Jan 20, 2014

Funds from election funding should be totally transparent regarding donors and amounts should be limited, otherwise our government will not be "of the people, for the people and by the people" it will be for the people who have the most money to buy the government they want at the risk of anyone else who cannot afford to buy votes. Please limit campaign contributions in amount and require public disclosure re who is contributing and what amounts. Thank you, Sharon Beaufait

Sharon Beaufait
Enfield, NH 03748
Jan 20, 2014

CJ Perez
Manchester, NH 03104
Jan 20, 2014

rick weinberg
Bath, NH 03740
Jan 20, 2014

Carla Meyers
North Hampton, NH 03862
Jan 20, 2014

Even though this is an email petition, it is something I feel very strongly about: the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in Citizens United was a very undemocratic one; it has already been disastrous for our electoral system. Please overturn it.

Margaret Gale
Bethlehem, NH 03574
Jan 20, 2014

Kristen
Mt. Vernon, NH 03057
Jan 20, 2014

Carolyn Bulmer
Francetown, NH 03043

Jan 20, 2014

Mary A. McCulloch
Gilmanton, NH 03237
Jan 20, 2014

Eileen Flockhart
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Jerry Amos
Hollis, NH 03049
Jan 20, 2014

Brandon Jordan
Atkinson, NH 03811
Jan 20, 2014

Mike Duhaime
Merrimack, NH 03054
Jan 20, 2014

S Higgins
Sanbornton, NH 03269
Jan 20, 2014

lets keep this going.for new hampshire.

vicky poteat
windham, NH 03087
Jan 20, 2014

Trevor Knight
Brentwood, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Elizabeth Knox
Grantham, NH 03753
Jan 20, 2014

Skip Gorman
Grafton, NH 03240
Jan 20, 2014

Stephen Mather-Lees
Raymond, NH 03077
Jan 20, 2014

Gregg Stephens
Manchester, NH 03104
Jan 20, 2014

Robert F. Crowley
Chatham, NH 03813
Jan 20, 2014

Robert Burke
Alton Baay, NH 03810
Jan 20, 2014

Eva Gruesser
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

I am so disheartened by the excessive amount of money spent by groups and people we have no way of knowing. A secret ballot is one thing. Secret influence through money is quite another. I as a citizen am tired of feeling insignificant just because my bank account is less than huge.

dorothy piquado
Guilford, NH 03249
Jan 20, 2014

Jonathan M. Ross
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

John Raby
New London, NH 03257
Jan 20, 2014

bill
keene, NH 03431
Jan 20, 2014

Aileen Rigas
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Jaimie Wolf
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

Lynne Hawkins
Bedford, NH 03110
Jan 20, 2014

Alden W. Hall
Lebanon, NH 03766
Jan 20, 2014

Karen landry
Salem, NH 03079
Jan 20, 2014

J Joyce
Wakefield, NH 03872
Jan 20, 2014

Amy
Claremont, NH 03743
Jan 20, 2014

Rob Brown
Swanzey Ctr, NH 03446
Jan 20, 2014

Jan Schmidt
Nashua, NH 03063
Jan 20, 2014

James Joyce
Wakefield, NH 03872
Jan 20, 2014

Elaine Davis
Shelburne, NH 03581
Jan 20, 2014

We are long over due for a constitutional convention. It's time the people take government away from the ugly rich.

Rich Wyatt
Concord, NH 03303
Jan 20, 2014

Danielle Eriksen
Weare, NH 03281
Jan 20, 2014

Mark Winslow
Greenville, NH 03048
Jan 20, 2014

Gregory Marshall
West Lebanon, NH 03784
Jan 20, 2014

Sarah Cullen
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

Edith Pucci Couchman
Hollis, NH 03049
Jan 20, 2014

Patrick Clark
Rochester, NH 03867
Jan 20, 2014

I agree.

Charles Minnich
Goffstown, NH 03045
Jan 20, 2014

Nancy Clark
Contoocook, NH 03229
Jan 20, 2014

Carl Querfurth
Jaffrey, NH 03452
Jan 20, 2014

Tom Schmidt
Milford, NH 03055
Jan 20, 2014

Carol Sloboda
Etna, NH 03750
Jan 20, 2014

Joan Strully
Newprt, NH 03773
Jan 20, 2014

My ancestors did not fight foreign tyranny so they could be tyrannized by domestic rich men. If this country is for sale to the highest bidder, our revolution was for naught. Let those who support "Citizens United" know that there is a quite different assemblage of united citizens who are taking names and who know what tyrants and traitors deserve. Up the Republic, boyos , and the devil take the hindmost.

Brian O'Brien
Hampton, NH 03842
Jan 20, 2014

A Legislator for Each Corporation? Is this why you got into politics? Wasn't it the people of America who called to you? Or was it just the corporations?

Elizabeth Schaeffer
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Robert Bulkeley
Campton, NH 03223
Jan 20, 2014

Former Supreme Court Justice Souter on Citizens United Decision and Free Speech
<http://youtu.be/VcXQ-BHmfbk>

Daniel Robert Snodgrass
Manchester, NH 03101
Jan 20, 2014

Matt Rand
Madbury, NH 03823
Jan 20, 2014

Catherine McMahon
Wolfeboro, NH 03894
Jan 20, 2014

Sharyn Lawler
Spring Hill, FL 34609
Jan 20, 2014

james colado
somersworth, NH 03878
Jan 20, 2014

Sean
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

Dr. Scott Meyer
Plymouth, NH 03264
Jan 20, 2014

Ronald Heine
Raymond, NH 03077
Jan 20, 2014

Linn S. Schulz
Nottingham, NH 03290
Jan 20, 2014

Joe Langione
Surry, NH 03431
Jan 20, 2014

Peg Custer
Chocorua, NH 03817
Jan 20, 2014

Rick Bonito
Nashua, NH 03060
Jan 20, 2014

Carin Reynolds
Lebanon, NH 03766
Jan 20, 2014

aaris mariano
barrington, NH 03825
Jan 20, 2014

Margaret Kidd
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 20, 2014

Suzanne Butler
Manchester, NH 03110
Jan 20, 2014

Barbara C. Pugh
Campton, NH 03223
Jan 20, 2014

Robert Anthonyson
Sunapee, NH 03782
Jan 20, 2014

Let's take our elections off the auction block. A small group of people should not have a disproportionate impact on our elections.

Susan Pendleton
Milford, NH 03055
Jan 20, 2014

Please, for the sake of our cherished democracy.

Eric Wells
Merrimack, NH 03054
Jan 20, 2014

Tom Vachon
South Tamworth, NH 03883
Jan 20, 2014

Alison Webb
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

Thank you very much for doing the right thing, Senator Prescott.

Wendy Walker
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Steven Byers
Windham, NH 03087
Jan 20, 2014

Pam Parris
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Brenda Sens
Gilmanton, NH 03237
Jan 20, 2014

Nathan Fournier
Hillsborough, NH 03244
Jan 20, 2014

marilyn brock
bedford, NH 03110
Jan 20, 2014

Roberto Onofrio
Lebanon, NH 03766
Jan 20, 2014

Karl Carlson
Seabrook, NH 03874
Jan 20, 2014

Raymond McKeen
Nashua, NH 03063-2241
Jan 20, 2014

Joan Watson
Westmoreland, NH 03467
Jan 20, 2014

Sharon
New Boston, NH 03070
Jan 20, 2014

Brenda Shurtleff
Nashua, NH 03063-7622
Jan 20, 2014

Pierre Bakis
Derry, NH 03038
Jan 20, 2014

Evelyn Truhn
Wakefield, NH 03872
Jan 20, 2014

Bev Russo
Nottingham, NH 03290-6105
Jan 20, 2014

Carole Kitchel Bellew
Piermont, NH 03779
Jan 20, 2014

Paul E Bourassa
Bow, NH 03304
Jan 20, 2014

Melanie Vogel
Unity, NH 03773
Jan 20, 2014

Charles Bent
Wilton, NH 03086
Jan 20, 2014

Darlene Horsfield
Windham, NH 03087
Jan 20, 2014

Karen Johnson
Peterborough, NH 03458
Jan 20, 2014

David Tauber
Center Conway, NH 03813
Jan 20, 2014

Robert Lambert
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

Kimberly Dwinell
Amherst, NH 03031
Jan 20, 2014

Joan Falkenstein
Peterborough, NH 03458-1638
Jan 20, 2014

Gloria riel
Deerfield, NH 03037
Jan 20, 2014

Christoph Wienands
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

Angela Lambert
Ashland, NH 03217
Jan 20, 2014

Carole Paulson
Webster, NH 03303
Jan 20, 2014

Jon Gilbert Fox
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Cordelia Mayhew
Hampstead, NH 03841
Jan 20, 2014

Tom Brody
Lebanon, NH 03766
Jan 20, 2014

Hannah Haslam
doover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

Wanda Allen
Bartlett, NH 03812
Jan 20, 2014

chris anctil
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Jan 20, 2014

Richard Obin
Nashua, NH 03063
Jan 20, 2014

David Dietle
Bedford, NH 03110
Jan 20, 2014

Deborah Donnelly
Amherst, NH 03031
Jan 20, 2014

We the people don't want corporate political spending to usurp our power as given to us by the constitution.

Mary Ryan
Swanzey, NH 03446
Jan 20, 2014

charles gordon
Guilford, NH 03249
Jan 20, 2014

Patricia Saenger
Temple, NH 03084
Jan 20, 2014

Donald Tirabassi
Portsmouth, NH 03801-5433

Jan 20, 2014

Susan Calligandes
Manchester, NH 03101
Jan 20, 2014

Yes! This is extremely important.

Tayva Young
Derry, NH 03038
Jan 20, 2014

William Todd
Strafford, NH 03884
Jan 20, 2014

Priscilla G. carr
Enfield, NH 03748
Jan 20, 2014

Megan Gregory
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Sandra Gendron
Dunbarton, NH 03046
Jan 20, 2014

Crystal Brunelli
Raymond, NH 03077
Jan 20, 2014

Elenore Freedman
Manchester, NH 03102
Jan 20, 2014

Pam Mueller
Contoocook, NH 03229
Jan 20, 2014

Diane and Marc Tessier
manchester, NH 03104
Jan 20, 2014

Denise Vaillancourt
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 20, 2014

Jennifer Cooke
Lyme, NH 03768
Jan 20, 2014

Tim Dunn
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 20, 2014

Richard A. Stoehr
Center Sandwich, NH 03227-0163
Jan 20, 2014

Dianne Green
Hooksett, NH 03106
Jan 20, 2014

This is exactly like the petition that is going around the state now to get a constitutional amendment reversing Citizens United. With petitions, we are asking our towns to put this on their warrant at town meeting.

Marilyn Britton
Peterborough, NH 03458
Jan 20, 2014

Donna Desrosiers
Plymouth, NH 03264-1490
Jan 20, 2014

Bea Baxter
Campton, NH 03223
Jan 20, 2014

Milt Lauenstein
Exeter, NH 03833
Jan 20, 2014

Geoff Westervelt
Litchfield, NH 03052
Jan 20, 2014

Vincent Cirasole
Rochester, NH 03867
Jan 20, 2014

Kathryn Kerman
Marlborough, NH 03455
Jan 20, 2014

tom nicholson
bnarrington, NH 03825
Jan 20, 2014

I may have signed already. The thought is good but I don't see how it is going to do any good.

Lawrence Sunderland
Deering, NH 03244
Jan 20, 2014

Russ
Nelson, NH 03457
Jan 20, 2014

Virginia Stowell
Claremont, NH 03743
Jan 20, 2014

tina Clark
Lyme, NH 03768
Jan 20, 2014

John Topping
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Jennifer Green
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

Bob Erickson
Meredith, NH 03253
Jan 20, 2014

Margaret Seymour
Littleton, NH 03561-3710
Jan 20, 2014

Kathleen Cameron
Merrimack, NH 03054
Jan 20, 2014

John Lord
West Alton, NH 03810
Jan 20, 2014

elaine frank
Newport, NH 03773

Jan 20, 2014

Betty Hall
Brookline, NH 03033
Jan 20, 2014

Shawn Burns
Barrington, NH 03825
Jan 20, 2014

Colette Morris
Lyman, NH 03585
Jan 20, 2014

Julianna Lichatz
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 20, 2014

John Roberge
Groveton, NH 03582
Jan 20, 2014

I will sign this in hopes that Senator Prescott will indeed decide to be on the right side of an important issue, for once. If he does, he must be encouraged and thanked for changing his stripes, even if I don't trust him.

Lee Perrault
Rye, NH 03870
Jan 20, 2014

Peter Scoppettone
Lebanon, NH 03766
Jan 20, 2014

Bruce Allen
wilmot, NH 03287
Jan 20, 2014

Fritze Till
Walpole, NH 03608
Jan 20, 2014

henri vaillancourt
greenville, NH 03048
Jan 20, 2014

Earl Wajenberg
Goffstown, NH 03045
Jan 20, 2014

L. Dustin
Milford, NH 03055
Jan 20, 2014

daniel jonathian fielders
New Hampton, NH 03256
Jan 20, 2014

Julie DiCarlo
Danville, NH 03819
Jan 20, 2014

Barbara Fraunfelder
Walpole, NH 03608
Jan 20, 2014

Kirsten Bergethon
Hampton, NH 03842
Jan 20, 2014

Gilman Shattuck
Hillsborough, NH 03244
Jan 20, 2014

Lisa Donnelly
Strafford, NH 03884
Jan 20, 2014

Dennis Schneider
Nashua, NH 03062
Jan 20, 2014

d carr
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Garth Fletcher
Mason, NH 03048
Jan 20, 2014

Jenn Farmer
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

Nancy Nolan
Dublin, NH 03444
Jan 20, 2014

Morgan Curtis
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 20, 2014

Paul Birk
NASHUA, NH 03063
Jan 20, 2014

Ellen Groh
Hollis, NH 03049
Jan 20, 2014

Everett Palmer
Belmont, NH 03220
Jan 20, 2014

Susan Reiners
Dublin, NH 03444
Jan 20, 2014

Linda Williams
Chichester, NH 03258
Jan 20, 2014

Dorothea Vecchiotti
Dublin, NH 03444
Jan 20, 2014

VL
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 20, 2014

Deborah Wall
Nashua, NH 03064
Jan 20, 2014

jeff grummon
milford, NH 03055
Jan 20, 2014

Melanie Hamilton
Lyman, NH 03585
Jan 20, 2014

Peter Kelley
Wolfeboro, NH 03894
Jan 20, 2014

Evan Sederquest
Chester, NH 03036
Jan 19, 2014

Tabatha
Nashua, NH 03064
Jan 19, 2014

Marjorie Rogalski
Hanover, NH 03755
Jan 19, 2014

denise smith
manchester, NH 03104
Jan 19, 2014

Barry and Gretchen Draper
New Hampton, NH 03256
Jan 19, 2014

kathy
south acworth, NH 03607
Jan 19, 2014

Lisa Barolak
Richmond, NH 03470
Jan 19, 2014

Nancy Emerson
Portsmouth, NH 03801-4208
Jan 19, 2014

Lloyd Howland
Seabrook, NH 03874
Jan 19, 2014

Of the people, by the people, for the people.

Michael A. Long
Epsom, NH 03234
Jan 19, 2014

mike russo
Nottingham, NH 03290
Jan 19, 2014

David Lynch
Weirs Beach, NH 03246

Jan 19, 2014

Alissa DiFranco
Goffstown, NH 03045
Jan 19, 2014

Valerie S. Hardy
Litchfield, NH 03052
Jan 19, 2014

Thomas Diehl
Bristol, NH 03222
Jan 19, 2014

Elizabeth Thoms
New Ipswich, NH 03071
Jan 19, 2014

Phyllis Mackey
Newfields, NH 03856
Jan 19, 2014

Mr. Kevin D. Corriveau
Peterborough, NH 03458
Jan 19, 2014

Carrie Gorman
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 19, 2014

David London
Stratham, NH 03885
Jan 19, 2014

Brabara Gilbert
Jaffrey, NH 03452
Jan 19, 2014

Maura Riley
nashua, NH 03064
Jan 19, 2014

rod zwirner
Antrim, NH 03440-3420
Jan 19, 2014

Stephen Wright
Allenstown, NH 03275
Jan 19, 2014

Eric L. Speed
Strafford, NH 03884
Jan 19, 2014

Bruce MacIntyre
Lee, NH 03861
Jan 19, 2014

Jeanne Torpey
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 19, 2014

Keep fighting for freedom and liberty!!'

michael McEleney
wilton, NH 03086
Jan 19, 2014

David Morrill
Manchester, NH 03103
Jan 19, 2014

RAY BELLEMEUR
mirror lake, NH 03853
Jan 19, 2014

Theresa Smedstad
Kearsarge, NH 03847
Jan 19, 2014

Caddie Gregory
Jaffrey, NH 03452
Jan 19, 2014

Denise Ponte
Northwood, NH 03261
Jan 19, 2014

Keep New Hampshire politics in the control of our state citizens, not big money from outside influences.

Nancy Seager
Goffstown, NH 03045
Jan 19, 2014

Valerie piedmont
Gilsum, NH 03448
Jan 19, 2014

Peter Menard
Lyme, NH 03768
Jan 19, 2014

Frederick Roschow
Bristol, NH 03222
Jan 19, 2014

Raymond Lanier
Concord, NH 03301
Jan 19, 2014

Donald Zizzi
Nashua, NH 03064
Jan 19, 2014

Time to take the country back from the Koch brothers and they're ilk.

stan eckel
Piermont, NH 03779
Jan 19, 2014

Paula Duston
Chesterfield, NH 03443
Jan 19, 2014

This is the most important issue before us. I am so glad that Senator Prescott is pushing SB 307. Bravo!

Mary Breasted Smyth
Tamworth, NH 03886
Jan 19, 2014

Eric Andrews
North Conway, NH 03860
Jan 19, 2014

George Stergiou
Dover, NH 03820
Jan 19, 2014

Senator Prescott, The petition says it all. We are a proud state and have always voted for what we felt was the best for us, not what someone from thousands of miles away felt. I thank you for supporting SB307, let's pass it and try to take the unlimited money out of our politics, that is not the New Hampshire way. john

John Canepa
warner, NH 03278
Jan 19, 2014

Veronica Malmberg
Canterbury, NH 03224
Jan 19, 2014

Corporations are not people. Support constitutional amendment to restrict corporate money in political campaigns

erik nilsen
Dalton, NH 03598
Jan 19, 2014

Andrew Dunbar
Peterborough, NH 03458-2430
Jan 19, 2014

sam goodrich
litchfield, NH 03052
Jan 19, 2014

Liz Fletcher
Mason, NH 03048
Jan 18, 2014

darrell ford
rochester, NH 03867
Jan 18, 2014

Corporations are not people .. their dollars don't change the words of the people !

Timothy Scerra
Pembroke, NH 03275
Jan 18, 2014

David Stewart
Rochester, NH 03868
Jan 18, 2014

Henry boulanger
East Hampstead, NH 03826
Jan 18, 2014

Lillian Meyer
Hudson, NH 03051-4407
Jan 18, 2014

Robert Driscoll
West Chesterfield, NH 03466
Jan 18, 2014

William Hodge
Hudson, NH 03051
Jan 18, 2014

Anne C. Chase
Glen, NH 03838
Jan 18, 2014

Bob Soucy DO
Colebrook, NH 03576
Jan 18, 2014

Judith Hauck
Wilmot Flat, NH 03287
Jan 18, 2014

Louise Rohde
Dublin, NH 03444
Jan 18, 2014

John Mark Blowen
Stratham, NH 03885
Jan 18, 2014

Daniel L. Distel
Windham, NH 03087
Jan 18, 2014

Karen Bishop
MANCHESTER, NH 03104
Jan 18, 2014

Allen LaPlante
Nashua, NH 03062-1257
Jan 17, 2014

Corinne dodge
Londonderry, NH 03038
Jan 17, 2014

wayne hoffman
Boca Raton, FL 33434
Jan 17, 2014

maria weick
Dorchester, NH 03266
Jan 16, 2014

MaryEllen
Milford, NH 03055
Jan 16, 2014

George Manos
Danville, NH 03819
Jan 16, 2014

Dexter Arnold
Nashua, NH 03064
Jan 16, 2014

Richard Watson
Eliot, ME 03903
Jan 16, 2014

Len Janowitz
Rochester, NH 03867
Jan 16, 2014

Paula Wanzer
Meredith, NH 03253
Jan 16, 2014

glenn brackett
northwood, NH 03261
Jan 16, 2014

I stand with sen prescott

linda horan
alstead, NH 03602
Jan 16, 2014

Steven Kloppenburg
Milton, NH 03851
Jan 16, 2014

We're supposed to be a democracy where each citizen has an equal say, not a plutocracy serving a selfish minority at the expense of the majority. Thank you for standing up against Citizens United. I also endorse campaign finance reform, at the moment there is way too much money in politics and it has corrupted our governance.

John Dennis
Temple, NH 03084
Jan 16, 2014

Pat Fiero
Leverett, MA 01054
Jan 15, 2014

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Understanding SB 307

"Recognizing the need for a constitutional amendment to overturn the *Citizens United* ruling and related cases," SB 307 creates a committee consisting of members of the New Hampshire House and Senate to examine the impact of the *Citizens United* ruling.

The committee will examine the different approaches and language being proposed for a constitutional amendment; it will examine the short term solutions to issues raised by the ruling, such as requiring disclosure of donors and shareholder approval of corporate election contributions; and it will make recommendations to the New Hampshire congressional delegation as to which approaches the delegation should support.

On January 21, 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court unleashed a flood of money into our political system by ruling that corporations, associations and labor unions have a right to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates. The ruling also led to the determination that individuals also have a right to unlimited spending.

The impact in New Hampshire has been substantial.

For example, in the 2012 New Hampshire gubernatorial race, outside groups spent \$19 million - almost 5 times what the candidates spent themselves.ⁱ This outside spending from the left and the right threatens New Hampshire's citizen legislature to influence from large donors.

New Hampshire residents across party lines are outraged by the ruling and support an amendment.

72% oppose the *Citizens United* ruling (81% Democrats, 70% Independents, 64% Republicans) and 69% of New Hampshire residents support a constitutional amendment that limits campaign contributions and spending (75% Democrats, 73 Independents, 61% Republicans).ⁱⁱ

New Hampshire residents are taking action based upon their support for an amendment.

Residents in 53 towns have already placed the issue of a constitutional amendment before their town meetings this March and many more are still in the works.ⁱⁱⁱ New Hampshire residents recently marched across the state in the dead of winter to call for campaign finance reform. Other states have shown that voters are willing to bring this passion to the polls. For example, an unknown state senate candidate in New York, Cecilia Tkaczyk was able to win an upset election in 2012 by running on the issue of campaign finance reform.^{iv}

Why create a committee?

There is important and worthy disagreement about what a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* should state. Creating a committee allows informed actors to join together and determine which approaches are best, and does not limit support to one certain approach.



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Will campaign spending of unions and corporations be affected in the same way?

Yes. The amendments being discussed in congress enable regulation of campaign spending from all entities - individuals, corporations and unions. Some completely ban spending from all who are not natural persons, including unions and corporations.

Why New Hampshire?

16 other states, including all the other states in New England, have called for an amendment. New Hampshire would join the growing bipartisan chorus of legislators who support an amendment.

Is this a partisan issue?

No. Democrats, Republicans and Independents have supported similar legislation throughout the nation, including in Maine, where a similar measure passed 25 to 9 in its Senate and 111 to 33 in its House.^v Outside spending can have dramatic effects on races on both sides of the aisle. For example, in the recent Virginia governor race, the Republican candidate was outspent 2 to 1.^{vi} This trend has been mirrored nationally this year,^{vii} and candidates on both sides are increasingly threatened by large outside spenders.

^v Coalition for Open Democracy, "The Need for Full Disclosure Now: New Hampshire Citizens Must Regain the Right to Know Who is Bankrolling Their Elections" Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.coalitionforopendemocracy.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/cod8pgdisclosurefinaldec17.pdf>

^{vi} Zach Azem, M.A., Andrew E. Smith, Ph.D., The Survey Center, University of New Hampshire (18 Apr 2013) Granite State Poll, Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.united4thepeople.org/images/NHpoll.pdf>

^{vii} "New Hampshire Town Resolutions" Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <https://mapsengine.google.com/map/edit?mid=zERA0Ihc15yU.k3jffsCWKPa4>

^{viii} Andy Kroll, *Mother Jones* (23 Jan 2013) Why An Unknown Senator Named CaCe Is a Breakthrough In the Campaign Money Wars, Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.motherjones.com/moj/2013/01/cacilia-tkaczyk-new-york-senate-money-politics-cuomo>

^{ix} Maine Citizens for Clean Elections (April 30, 2013) "Maine Legislature Calls on Congress to Pass Constitutional Amendment to Reverse Citizens United" Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from http://www.mainecleanelections.org/sites/default/files/press_releases/2013/130430_MCCE_PressRelease_LegPassesCAResolution_State.pdf

^x Evan Halper, *Los Angeles Times* (5 Nov 2013) Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.latimes.com/nation/politics/politicsnow/la-pn-democrats-gop-virginia-governor-election-20131105,0,2396386.story#axzz2IPGYLRQg>

^{xi} Fredreka Schouten, *USA Today* (13 Nov 2013) "Pro-Democratic super PACs outspend conservatives." Retrieved 27 Dec 2013 from <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2013/11/11/liberal-super-pacs-and-dark-money-groups-outspend-conservatives-in-2013-races/3495983/axzz2IPGYLRQg>



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How does *Citizens United* affect our city?

The U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* has transformed government in America, and the widespread consequences are already being felt at the federal, state, and local level. While City Council resolutions – like the ones that have already passed in over 150 towns and cities – call for a federal amendment, at the core they are a response to a crisis in our democracy that impacts each and every one of our communities.

The federal impact of *Citizens United* is well publicized, but it is also important to understand the effect this ruling has on local towns and cities throughout the nation.

Corporate Spending Can Have an Even Greater Impact Locally

The egregious levels of outside spending on the federal level are well documented. In the 2010 Congressional elections, spending by corporations and wealthy individuals totaled almost \$300 million.ⁱ In the 2012 election, the largest super PAC spent an astounding \$142 million.ⁱⁱ Altogether, super PACs spent \$609 million during the 2012 election cycle. Overall outside spending topped \$1.29 billion.ⁱⁱⁱ **In comparison to these mammoth sums of money, it only takes a modest amount of money to have a transformative impact on a local election.** If multi-million dollar Super-PACs can buy the victory of even presidential candidates, then what's stopping them from influencing local political elections?

Consider This: In the April 2012 elections for Oklahoma City Council the Super-PAC "Committee for Oklahoma City Momentum" spent \$400,000 on four candidates.^{iv} The annual salary for an Oklahoma City Council member is \$12,000 annually.^v Three of these four candidates won their campaigns. The only candidate who was able to defeat one of these Super Pac candidates noted deep concerns he saw with the democratic implications of a Super-PAC spending large sums on campaign ads without disclosing its donors.^{vi}

Or This: Durham County in North Carolina is also experiencing the effects of SuperPACs. The SuperPAC "Durham Partnership for Progress" – funded by a developing firm – spent thousands of dollars on a mailer supporting four council people who support a controversial development project the that the firm, Southern Durham Development, plans to build. The SuperPAC's support helped elect two of those council people into office in elections held on May 8, 2012.^{vii}

Small businesses oppose *Citizens United*

88 percent of small business owners believe that money in politics is having a negative impact and a vast majority are opposed to the *Citizens United* Supreme Court's ruling.^{viii} They are simply concerned that



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the very wealthiest will “set us back in our efforts to operate our businesses responsibly and promote a vibrant, equitable, and sustainable economy”^{ix}.

Big corporations’ ability to run small businesses out of town has significant effects on the health of the local economy, the employment rate and the diversity and survival of small businesses in a town. Elected officials generally understand this dynamic and are inclined to take actions to protect small businesses. However, when larger business interests can provide unlimited funds to influence elections, elected officials can no longer afford to make decisions they know are best for their community and those who do can be run out of office.

Further, *Citizens United* gives large corporations more ability to abuse tax loopholes and offshore tax havens. Currently this abuse results in each small business owner in America being shortchanged by an average of \$2,116.^x These practices, which also funnel money away from services essential to cities and towns, will only be exacerbated in a post *Citizens United* world.

Super-PACs decrease voter turnout

Recent polling conducted by the Brennan Center for Justice further demonstrates that *Citizens United* and the rise of Super PACs have harmed local democracy at its core by further sapping voter enthusiasm for the idea that their vote matters.^{xi} It shows that people are in fact less likely to vote as a result of the ruling; this especially holds true among less wealthy individuals and among people of color.^{xii}

Corporations’ and wealthy individuals’ unparalleled ability to drown out the voices of ordinary people through unlimited spending in elections inevitably wears down an electorate. Citizens’ disengagement from the democratic process is a huge threat to our representative democracy both on a local and federal level.

Communities nationwide must demand a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and restore First Amendment rights to We the People

The movement for a constitutional amendment to redress *Citizens United* is, at its core, a grassroots one driven by very real concerns about challenges to our democracy that reverberate in each and every community. In fact, while Article V of the Constitution provides a legislative process for amending the constitution, traditionally the call for an amendment has begun at the ground level. This has certainly been the case in movements like Women’s Suffrage, where citizens’ actions, in the face of institutional complacency, forced the issue to be addressed.

The movement to overturn *Citizens United* and related cases continues in this proud tradition, addressing a crisis that impacts each and every citizen and community. Uniting to pass a local resolution in your town is a necessary step towards restoring free and fair elections rights to the people both locally and nationally.



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ⁱ Public Citizen's analysis of Federal Election Commission (FEC) data. See Congress Watch (January 2011). "12 Months After: The Effects of *Citizens United* on Elections and the Integrity of the Legislative Process." Retrieved 15 Sept, 2011, from <http://www.citizen.org/documents/Citizens-United-20110113.pdf>.

ⁱⁱ Center for Responsive Politics, "Restore Our Future" Retrieved 22 April 2013 from: <http://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/detail.php?cmte=C00490045&cycle=2012>

ⁱⁱⁱ Center for Responsive Politics. "Outside Spending." Retrieved 22 April 2013 from: <http://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/index.php>.

^{iv} NewsOk (2012). "Oklahoma elections: Ed Shadid wins Oklahoma City Council Ward 2 seat", newsok.com . Retrieved 5/1/2012 from <http://newsok.com/oklahoma-elections-ed-shadid-wins-oklahoma-city-council-ward-2-seat/article/3555775/?page=1>.

^v City of Oklahoma "Mayor and Council", [okc.gov](http://www.okc.gov). Retrieved 5/10/2012 from <http://www.okc.gov/council/index.html>

^{vi} NewsOk (2012). "Oklahoma elections: Ed Shadid wins Oklahoma City Council Ward 2 seat", newsok.com. Retrieved 5/1/2012 from <http://newsok.com/oklahoma-elections-ed-shadid-wins-oklahoma-city-council-ward-2-seat/article/3555775/?page=1>.

^{vii} Sorg, L. (26 April 2012). "Durham's first Super PAC has ties to Southern Durham Development." [IndyWeek.com](http://www.indyweek.com). Retrieved 5/10/2012 from <http://www.indyweek.com/triangulator/archives/2012/04/26/durhams-first-super-pac-has-ties-to-southern-durham-development>

^{viii} Dunbar, J. (26 April 2012). "Top 10 donors make up a third of donations to Super PACs." [IWatch News](http://www.iwatchnews.org). Retrieved 3 May 2012 from <http://www.iwatchnews.org/2012/04/26/8753/top-10-donors-make-third-donations-super-pacs>.

^{ix} ASBCouncil (2012). "Business Statement in support of government by the people", [asbcouncil.org](http://www.asbcouncil.org). Retrieved 1/5/2012 from http://www.asbcouncil.org/sites/default/files/files/Business_Case_for_Business_for_Democracy.pdf.

^x U.S. PIRG (2012). "[Picking Up the Tab: Average Citizens and Small Businesses Pay the Price for Offshore Tax Havens.](http://mainstreetalliance.org/5712/tax-haven-abuse-picking-up-the-tab/)" Retrieved 3 May 2012 from <http://mainstreetalliance.org/5712/tax-haven-abuse-picking-up-the-tab/>

^{xi} Brennan Center for Justice (2012). "Poll: Super PACs Leave Americans Less Likely to Vote", [brennancenter.org](http://www.brennancenter.org). Retrieved 1/5/2012 from http://www.brennancenter.org/content/resource/poll_super_pacs_leave_americans_less_likely_to_vote/.

^{xii} The Nation (2012). "People of Color Less Likely to Vote Because of Super PAC Influence", [thenation.org](http://www.thenation.com). Retrieved on 5/1/2012 from <http://www.thenation.com/blog/167579/people-color-less-likely-vote-cause-super-pac-influence>.



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The Case for Overturning *Citizens United*

In 2010, when the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* struck down laws restricting corporate and union spending in elections, Americans from all political backgrounds expressed outrage at the Court's disastrous decision. Today, when Americans are asked if they believe big money has a corrupting and undue influence on our political process, the answer is consistently a resounding yes.

Yet, a small band of corporate-backed commentators and advocacy groups, such as the original *Citizens United*, claim the Court's ruling was a "victory for free speech" and that overturning *Citizens United* is part of a "liberal" political agenda. Despite these claims, there are compelling reasons why conservatives should be concerned about the impact of the Court's ruling and should join fellow conservatives as well as Americans across the political spectrum in efforts to overturn *Citizens United*.

***CITIZENS UNITED V. FEC* – REPUBLICANS EXPRESS THEIR OUTRAGE**

There has been a lot of noise from a small group of corporate-backed political organizations about how the *Citizens United* ruling was a "victory for free speech." Yet, in the wake of the Court's decision, poll after poll has shown that Americans of all political stripes believe the Court made a disastrous decision.

Most Republicans think Citizens United was bad for democracy:

- A survey conducted in April 2012 by the Opinion Research Corporation (ORC) found that overall, **69% of Americans** agreed that "new rules that let corporations, unions and people give unlimited money to Super PACs **will lead to corruption.**" Only 15% disagreed.ⁱ
 - **Notably, three out of four Republicans (74%)** agreed with this statement.ⁱⁱ
 - A similar poll conducted in January 2012 by the Pew Research Center (PRC) showed that **Independent voters** were by far the group that felt the *Citizens United* ruling was negative – **more than two out of three (67%)** of those polled said the ruling has a negative impact on political campaigns.ⁱⁱⁱ

Most Republicans think big campaign spenders, including corporations, can influence how a member of Congress votes:

- More than two-thirds of respondents (68%) in the ORC poll— **including 71% of Republicans** — also agreed that, "if a company spent \$100,000 to help elect a member of Congress, it could successfully pressure him or her to change a vote on proposed legislation." Only one in five respondents disagreed.^{iv}

Most Republicans think that increased campaign spending erodes trust:

- **Over two out of three Republicans (67%)** responding to the ORC poll said that "they trust government less because big donors to Super PACs have more influence than regular voters."^v



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Most Republicans, including Tea Party supporters, think steps should be taken to curb this corrosive campaign spending:

- A March 2012 poll conducted by **ABC News/Washington Post**, showed that over two-thirds of Americans (69%) felt Super PACs should be illegal – and over half of these people (52%) said they strongly supported such a move.^{vi}
- Among Tea Party supporters, the number was the same: **69% of Tea Party supporters felt that super PACs should be outlawed.**^{vii}

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM: PART OF THE CONSERVATIVE LEGACY

Campaign finance reform – including efforts to limit political spending by corporations, unions and the super-wealthy – has historically been part of the conservative legacy.

- The Court's decision rolled back **nearly a century of laws – federal and state – passed by lawmakers from both sides of the aisle** who, regardless of political affiliation, agreed that reasonable restrictions can and should be placed on campaign spending by powerful special interests in order to preserve our democracy. Bipartisan reform efforts included the original ban on direct corporate contributions in the 1907 Tillman Act, and both the 1971 Federal Election Campaign Act and its strong amendments passed in the aftermath of the Watergate scandal.
- *Citizens United* itself struck down key parts of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 (BCRA), known as the McCain-Feingold Act. BCRA was introduced by Senator John McCain, and was signed into law in 2003 by **Republican President George W. Bush.**^{viii}

Stalwart conservative statesmen have fought for campaign finance reform.

- No less a conservative movement icon than Republican Senator **Barry Goldwater** of Arizona uttered these words in support of bipartisan campaign finance reform in 1983: ***"[O]ur nation is facing a crisis of liberty if we do not control campaign expenditures. We must prove that elective office is not for sale. We must convince the public that elected officials are what James Madison intended us to be, agents of the sovereign people, not the hired hands of rich givers, or what Madison called factions."***
- Arizona Senator **John McCain**, Goldwater's successor and the 2008 Republican presidential nominee, called the Supreme Court's ruling ***"a combination of arrogance, naiveté and stupidity, the likes of which I have never seen."***
- Arguing that campaign finance and government waste are often connected, former Senator **Alan Simpson** of Wyoming notes that, "Public employee pensions, which far exceed their private-sector equivalents, and multibillion-dollar defense programs not requested by the Pentagon are but two examples of the very real price we pay when special interest groups are permitted to influence policies. Both parties are to blame."^{ix}
- Decrying *Citizens United* and seeking to reinvigorate the tradition of pro-reform conservatives in Congress that he'd been a part of for decades, former Senator **Warren Rudman** of New Hampshire wrote that "Supreme Court opinion notwithstanding, corporations are not defined as people under the Constitution, and free speech can hardly be called free when only the rich are heard."^x



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CITIZENS UNITED V FEC – BAD FOR CORE CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL CONCERNS

Protecting States' Rights

- This new influx of *Citizens United* enabled corporate and union political spending stands to have the greatest impact on the outcomes of state and local elections, where huge spending increases can dwarf local resources. This summer's recall elections in Wisconsin, where money from out-of-state corporations, unions, and millionaires is pouring in at record levels, shows how *Citizens United* has made local matters less determined by local voters than ever.
- In a Montana case, *Western Tradition Partnership vs. Montana*, an appointee of Republican Governor and RNC Chairman Marc Racicot, Justice James fiercely criticizes the *Citizens United* ruling. He states "I thoroughly disagree with the Supreme Court's decision in *Citizens United*. I agree, rather, with the eloquent and, in my view, better-reasoned dissent of Justice Stevens."^{xi}

Supporting Small Business

- Small business owners oppose the *Citizens United* ruling: **A recent survey in January 2012 of small business owners indicated that 66% of the small business owners polled felt that the Supreme Court's ruling has been bad for small business, compared to only 9% who felt that it has been good for small business.**
- Additionally, **88% of those polled view money in politics negatively, including 68% who view it "very negatively."**^{xii}
- Why do small businesses feel this way? It's not hard to see why – most political contributions given to SuperPACs and independent groups come from a very, very small pool of extremely wealthy donors and giant corporations.
- Though small businesses owners are now 'free' to make these unlimited political contributions, when it comes to political spending small business owners on Main St. can't compete with Big Banks on Wall Street.

Support is growing quickly for an amendment

- On Election Day of 2012, over 6 million voters had the opportunity to vote on ballot initiatives regarding a constitutional amendment. Voters approved every single initiative with approximately 75% support, including the states of Montana and Colorado.
- So far, **more than 2 million people** have signed petitions in support of an amendment. And more than 135 members of Congress have expressed support for an amendment.
- More than 120 national organizations – groups concerned about civil rights, the environment, climate change, open government and workers' rights – have endorsed the United for the People collaborative's unified Call to Action for a constitutional amendment (www.United4ThePeople.org).



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- Nearly 500 municipalities have called for a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and rein in corporate influence.
- Sixteen states: California, Connecticut, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia have called for an amendment.

When local decision makers do away with partisan rhetoric and look at the facts on the ground, it's clear that Americans across the political spectrum are concerned about the impacts of the *Citizens United* on our democracy and our American way of life, and have a big opportunity to reach out – across the aisle or across town – to work with others to undo this ruling.

From the grassroots on up, the American people are mobilizing to take back local voters' right to hold sway over our elected decision-makers. By passing a local resolution calling for [a constitutional amendment to] overturn *Citizens United*, conservatives can play an integral part in protecting our democracy for the next generation.

¹ Brennan Center for Justice (24 April 2012). "National Survey: Super PACs, Corruption, and Democracy." Retrieved 27 April 2012, from http://www.brennancenter.org/content/resource/national_survey_super_pacs_corruption_and_democracy.

² Brennan Center, *Ibid*.

³ Pew Research Center (17 Jan 2012). "Super PACs Having Negative Impact, Say Voters Aware of 'Citizens United' Ruling." Retrieved 18 January, 2012, from <http://www.people-press.org/2012/01/17/super-pacs-having-negative-impact-say-voters-aware-of-citizens-united-ruling/>.

⁴ Brennan Center, *Ibid*.

⁵ Pew Research Center, *Ibid*.

⁶ Eggen, D. (17 Feb 2010, 15 Sept 2011). "Poll: Large majority opposes Supreme Court's decision on campaign financing." *Washington Post*. Retrieved 15 Sept, 2011, from <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/17/AR2010021701151.html>.

⁷ Eggen, *Ibid*.

⁸ Roll call votes for BCRA in the U.S. House accessed via the U.S. House Clerk here:

<http://mentata.com/ds/retrieve/congress/vote/VC107S22>. Roll call votes for BCRA for the U.S. Senate accessed via U.S. Senate Clerk here:

www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.cfm?congress=107&session=1&vote=00054

⁹ Simpson, A. (25 April 2011). "Special Interests Distort Elections." *Politico*. Retrieved 1 May 2012 from <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0411/53597.html#ixzz1tk109YdT>.

¹⁰ Rudman, R. (5 Feb 2010). "Republicans losing their way on campaign reform." *Washington Post*. Retrieved 1 May 2012 from <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/04/AR2010020403624.html>.

¹¹ *Western Tradition Partnership vs. Montana 2011 MT 328* (MT 2011). (Nelson, J. dissenting).

¹² American Sustainable Business Council (17 Jan 2012). "Poll Results: Money and Politics" Retrieved 18 January, 2012, from http://www.asbcouncil.org/poll_money_in_politics.html.



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Small Businesses Reject Role of Money in Politics; View *Citizens United* Decision as Bad for Business

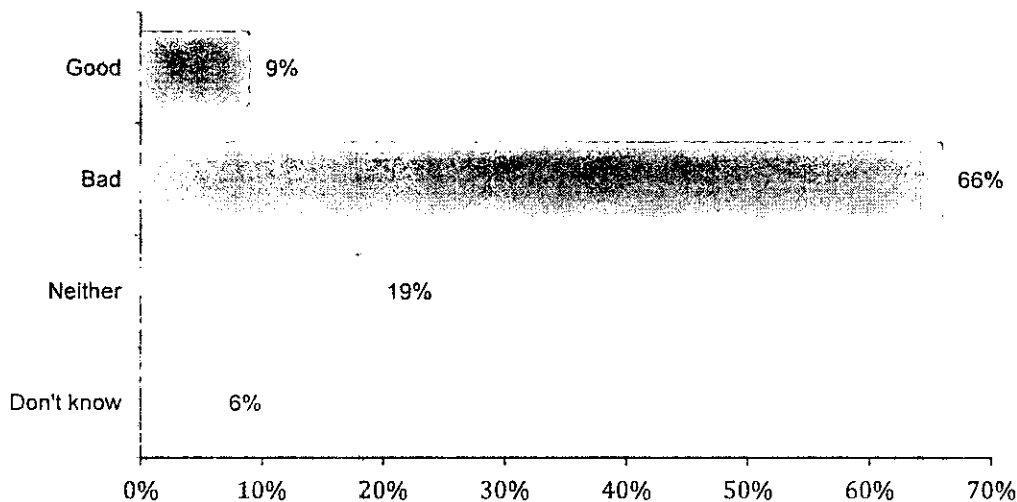
On Jan. 21, 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in its *Citizens United* decision that corporations are free to spend unlimited sums of money in elections. According to opinion polling released by the American Sustainable Business Council, Main Street Alliance and Small Business Majority, two-thirds of small business owners see this decision as bad for small business. The poll also shows small business owners overwhelmingly believe corporations have been given too much freedom to spend money that directly influences political campaigns.

Main Findings

Small business owners view the *Citizens United* decision as bad for small business: 66% of those surveyed said the two-year-old ruling that gives corporations unlimited spending power in elections is bad for small businesses. Only 9% said it was good for small business.

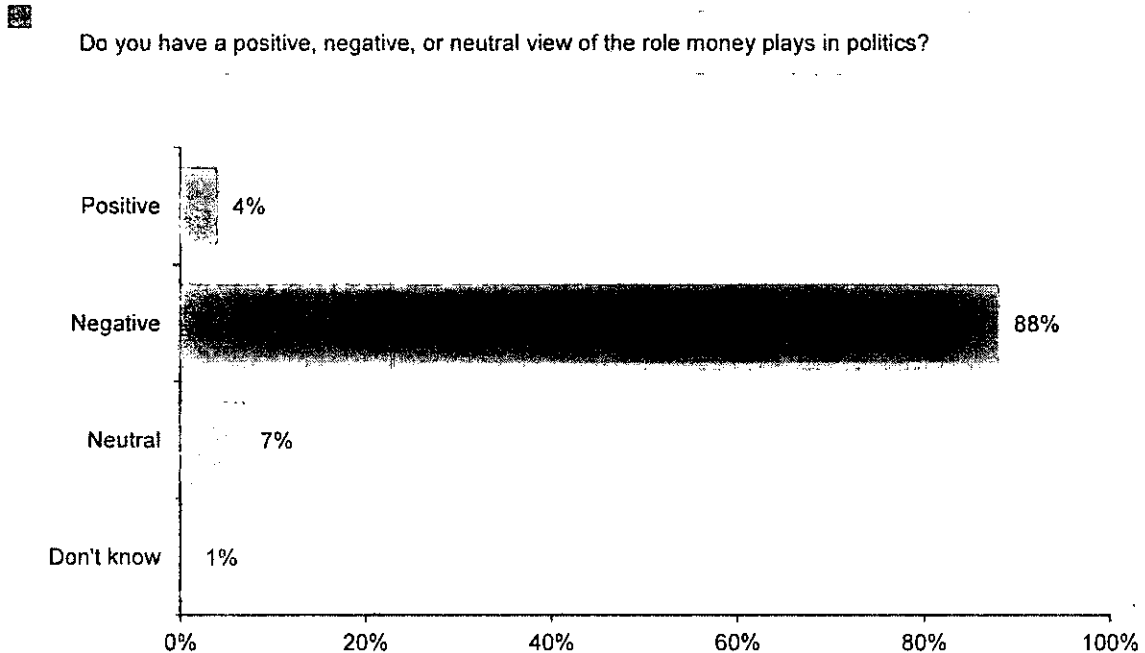
Figure 1: Majority of small businesses don't support *Citizens United* decision

In January 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in its *Citizens United* decision that corporations are free to spend unlimited sums of money in elections. Do you believe this change is mostly good for small businesses, somewhat good for small businesses, neither good nor bad for small businesses, somewhat bad for small businesses, or mostly bad for small businesses?



Small business owners have a negative view of the role money plays in politics overall: 88% of respondents view the role money plays in politics negatively; 68% view it very negatively.

Figure 2: Small businesses view money's role in politics negatively



Conclusion

The latest poll results reveal that small business owners believe unlimited corporate political spending in elections is detrimental to small business success. The poll found small business owners across the country are in broad disagreement with the U.S. Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision. With two-thirds of respondents believing this change is bad for small business and another 88% of them negatively viewing the role money plays in politics overall, small business owners' perspectives are clear: Unlimited corporate political spending in elections hurts the interests of small businesses, America's jobs engine.

Methodology

This poll reflects an Internet survey of 500 small business owners across the country, commissioned by the American Sustainable Business Council, Main Street Alliance and Small Business Majority and conducted by Lake Research. It has a margin of error of +/- 4.4%. The survey was conducted between December 8, 2011 and January 4, 2012.

Researchers used a random sample of small business owners obtained from Harris Interactive, with additional samples from InfoUSA.

Toplines

- In January 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in its Citizens United decision that corporations are free to spend unlimited sums of money in elections. Do you believe this change is mostly good for small businesses, somewhat good for small businesses, neither good nor bad for small businesses, somewhat bad for small businesses, or mostly bad for small businesses?

	TOTAL (%)	Business Size (by number of employee, including owner)		
		1	2-9	10+
Mostly good	5	2	5	7
Somewhat good	5	6	2	8
Neither good nor bad	19	12	22	17
Somewhat bad	10	11	11	10
Mostly bad	56	59	54	56
Don't know	6	10	5	3
Good	9	8	8	15
Bad	66	69	65	65

- Do you have a positive, negative, or neutral view of the role money plays in politics?

Very positive	2	0	2	2
Somewhat positive	2	0	3	4
Neutral	7	6	8	7
Somewhat negative	20	27	21	11
Very negative	68	65	67	75
Don't know	1	2	0	1
Positive	4	0	5	6
Negative	88	92	87	86

About the Organizations

American Sustainable Business Council

American Sustainable Business Council (ASBC) is a powerful coalition of business networks representing over 100,000 companies and 200,000 business leaders. ASBC advocates for public policies that meet the realities of the 21st century global economy. www.asbcouncil.org

Main Street Alliance

The Main Street Alliance is a national network of state-based small business coalitions. MSA creates opportunities for small business owners to speak for themselves on issues that impact their businesses and local economies. www.mainstreetalliance.org

Small Business Majority

Small Business Majority is a national nonpartisan small business advocacy organization, founded and run by small business owners, and focused on solving the biggest problems facing America's 28 million small businesses. We conduct extensive opinion and economic research and work with small business owners, policy experts and elected officials nationwide to bring small business voices to the public policy table. www.smallbusinessmajority.org

OUR TURN: WE MUST CURB THE POWER OF BIG MONEY IN ELECTIONS

By Sen. David Pierce and Robert Weissman

For the Monitor

Thursday, June 6, 2013

(Published in print: Thursday, June 6, 2013)

House Concurrent Resolution 2 calls for a constitutional amendment to overturn the U.S. Supreme Court's *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* ruling, which opened the floodgates of unlimited campaign spending. The resolution calls for an amendment that states, "Money is not speech, and therefore regulating the political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech." New Hampshire adults support such a constitutional amendment by 3-to-1 margin in a recent poll.

There are several misconceptions that have circulated through the New Hampshire Legislature about this resolution that we hope to dispel.

The first misconception is that HCR 2 calls for an amendment that would enable limits to be placed only on corporate spending in elections. In fact, the amendment sought by HCR 2 would give Congress the power to regulate campaign expenditures from unions, individuals and corporations. Thus, the amendment would allow Congress and state legislatures to take away the power of wealthy entities and individuals to buy political influence; it would enable the leveling of the playing field so all voices can be heard.

The second misconception is that HCR 2 is a limitation on free speech. Campaign spending is a means of amplifying speech, but not speech in itself. As Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens stated, "Money is property; it is not speech." When a person speaks through a bullhorn, the bullhorn itself is not speech; it is a vehicle for amplifying speech. Similarly, HCR 2 does not seek to regulate the content of speech, but the money that well-endowed entities and individuals use to amplify their speech and drown out the rest of the population. As the late Warren Rudman, former U.S. senator from New Hampshire said, "Free speech can hardly be called free when only the rich are heard."

The current system sacrifices the free speech of the vast majority of Americans to protect the power of a few to buy our elections.

Even if spending money to influence the outcome of elections was speech, limitations on the extent that money can be used for that purpose should not be viewed as violating the First Amendment. There are, in fact, many limitations that are placed on the exercise of speech to protect other liberties. For example, I can schedule a meeting to discuss the importance of a constitutional amendment with my member of Congress. However, if I were to come into his or her office with a bullhorn and start shouting for her or his support, I would likely be escorted out, as my actions were not reasonable in their time, place and manner.

In the 2012 election, 47 wealthy individuals spent a total of more than \$130 million to attempt to influence the outcome. Enabling this type of spending on our elections gravely endangers idea of a government of, for and by all the people, and threatens to create a government that is run by a small group of wealthy individuals and entities. Limiting these campaign expenditures is necessary to protect our nation's democracy.

The New Hampshire Legislature should join the 14 other states that have called upon Congress to overrule Citizens United and join them in the fight to end the corrupting influence of big money in our elections.

(State Sen. David Pierce is a Democrat from Etna. Robert Weissman is president of Public Citizen.)

Republicans Losing Their Way on Campaign Finance Reform

By Former Senator Warren Rudman

Friday, February 5, 2010

When I arrived in the U.S. Senate 30 years ago, I was a proud member of a Republican Party known for championing moderation in Congress, restraint in the courts and good-government reform.

In fact, the Republican tradition of campaign finance reform in which I stand dates to the trust-buster, Theodore Roosevelt. In his 1905 message to Congress, President Roosevelt proposed that "contributions by corporations to any political committee or for any political purpose should be forbidden by law." His logic was straightforward enough: "If [legislators] are extorted by any kind of pressure or promise, express or implied, direct or indirect, in the way of favor or immunity, then the giving or receiving becomes not only improper but criminal."

The resulting Tillman Act of 1907 and Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1910 were the first laws limiting corporate money in federal elections and requiring strict disclosure of campaign funds. With the rise of organized labor in the 1930s, Republican Sen. Robert Taft and Republican Rep. Fred Hartley extended the ban on corporate contributions to unions. Those laws were dealt a serious blow by last month's Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*. That such a rash and immoderate ruling could come from a chief justice once committed to respecting precedent, and win praise from leaders of my party, is beyond my comprehension.

It was congressional Republicans who led the 1971 effort to strengthen existing campaign finance law through the Federal Election Campaign Act. After the Watergate campaign finance scandal, Republicans in Congress joined with Democrats to pass far-reaching amendments to the 1971 law, limiting contributions and campaign spending and establishing a system of public financing for presidential campaigns.

In more recent years, my friend and former Senate colleague John McCain (R-Ariz.) took up the cause of reform with Sen. Russ Feingold (D-Wis.), leading a decade-long effort to stem the flow of unregulated "soft money" from special-interest groups to political parties and to curb spending by outside interests.

That history of Republican leadership on campaign finance reform should remind Republicans in Congress today that it is not in our true nature to side with the moneyed interests against the interests of the American people. The Supreme Court has taken that stand.

It's time to return to our roots and take up Teddy Roosevelt's challenge from over a century ago by enacting the only real and lasting solution I know: citizen-funded elections. Under the proposed Fair Elections Now Act, sponsored by more than 130 members of Congress, money from special interests would be replaced by small donations from constituents and matching federal funds. Matching funds, raised through a fee on large-scale government contracts, would go to serious, hardworking candidates who demonstrate a broad base of public support and who say no to large donations.

Republicans and Democrats in Congress must work together to expand political speech for all citizens by replacing special-interest money in politics with small donations and public matching funds. Supreme Court opinion notwithstanding, corporations are not defined as people under the Constitution, and free speech can hardly be called free when only the rich are heard.

The writer, a Republican from New Hampshire, chairs the bipartisan citizen initiative Americans for Campaign Reform with former senators Bill Bradley (D-N.J.), Bob Kerrey (D-Neb.) and Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.). They are leading a federal push for voluntary public funding of congressional and presidential elections.

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I join thousands of other New Hampshire residents, Republicans, Democrats and Independents, in supporting a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United* and related cases, and supporting the common sense step of establishing a committee to review and make recommendations regarding the next steps forward.

First Name	Last Name	City
Thomas	Broyer	Newton
ellen	read	newmarket
Thomas	Diehl	Alexandria
Gregory	Davis	Salem
John	Fernandez	Hampstead
Charles	Arnold	Manchester
Ruth	O'Neal	Effingham
Muriel	Dube	Nottingham
Donald	Eckhardt	Canterbury
Eva	Goss	Sandwich
Ginny	Schneider	Henniker
p	janusz	windham
Roger	Phillips	Concord
aleta	devork	Wolfeboro Falls
William	Ground	Rochester
Mara	Sabinson	Cornish
Beverly	Edwards	Templid
Mary M.	Casey	Manchester
Marcus christian	Hansen	Alstead
rod	zwirner	Antrim
Nikki	Andrews	Wilton
Gail	Laker-Phelps	Chichester
BERT	MCGRATH	DURHAM
Dennis	Sirois	Dover
Gerhard	Bedding	Keene
Rebecca	Kahn	Rockville
Donna	Thelander	Dover
Jann	Cobb	Raymond
Patricia	Martin	Rindge
Louise	Rohde	Dublin
Malinda	Jones	Nashua
Thomas	Westheimer	Peterborough
Richard	Healey	Wolfeboro
William	Thomas	Auburn



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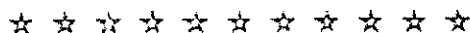
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mike	franklin	warner
Mark	Archambault	Nashua
Steve	Wade	Washington
Charles	Fassi	Goffstown
k	flanagan	hampton
Arthur	Lyford	
Grace	Burson	Plymouth
Rodney	DeGreenia	Gorham
William	Merrow	Deering
Russ	Brady	Milford
S	Stephanie	Manchester
Kristin	Noel	Chichester
Mary	Eysenbach	New London
Linda J	Baker	Keene
Geoffrey	Goodell	Nashua
David	Weber	Exeter
L David	Minsk	Lebanon
Susan	Goodwin	Wolfeboro
Barry	Draper	New Hampton
Neil	Lewis	Nashua
Annette	Dubois	Hudson
Mary	Ashcliffe	Henniker
Janette	Lozada	Laconia
alexandra	moftat	orford
Patricia	Kerekes	Manchester
Anne	Emerson	Canterbury
Gisela	Pietrzak	Nashua
Tom	Johnson	Barrington
Jennifer	Ailen	North Sandwich
Robert	Battersby	Center Conway
Paul	DuBois	Newport
Joseph	Ghiloni	Londonderry
Stuart	Russell	Concord
cynthia	milley	hampton
Joaquin	Paez	Meredith
Eileen	Elliott	Hancock
David	Holt	Somersworth
Robert	Manson	Center Conway
Jill	Capriccio	Derry
Gilman	Shattuck	Hillsborough
Sandra	Woodworth	North Hampton
ravenel	bennett	shelburne
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Deborah	Smith	Manchester
Doreen	Robertson	Bennington
Carol	Croteau	Kingston
Doug	Bogen	Barrington
John R.	White	Wolfeboro Falls
Sylvia	Foster	Durham
Jo Ellen	D'Ambrosio	Peterborough
Kevin	Rhoads	Lyme
Carol	Weingeist	Hanover
J. Bradford	Seabury	Hudson
Dan	Andrews	Manchester
Ron	Maartmann-Moe III	Salem
Helen	Lauenstein	Exeter
Dominic	Libby	Milton
Alec	Behr	Conway
William	Gould	new boston
Jon	Batson	Rochester
Jayne	Chase	Marlborough
Barbara	Widger	Manchester
Sharon	Cox	Franklin
Eric	Speed	Strafford
Kathe	Higgins	Rumney
		West
Cynthia	Harris	Peterborough
Ellen	Jahos	Alstead
Todd	Kerekes	Manchester
Paula	Cronin	Hooksett
Diane	Raymond	Nashua
Joseph	Bagshaw	CENTER CONWAY
Lawrence R.	Brown Jr.	Swanzey
Thomas	Hamon	Harrisville
Gerry	Coffey	Hollis
Vicki	Warner	Hooksett
Tom	Vachon	South Tamworth
J.E.	Cross	Manchester
Linnell	Krikorian	Manchester

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Heinz	Muri	Wilton
Ruth	Zwirner	Antrim
Barbara	Glassman	Nashua
Wendy	Walker	Exeter
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Sharon	Reed-Erickson	Rochester
David	Nichols	Fremont
Ult	Mundane	Temple
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Frank	Longo	Londonderry
George	Wood	Nashua
Ann	Gaudette	Nashua
William	McCloskey	Gilford
Jaqn	Stevens	Rumney
Kelly	Flanders	Milford
Nancy	Seager	Goffstown
H.D.	Horton	Canterbury
Nathan	Ellis	Brentwood
Charles	Bent	Wilton
Ken	Wells	Andover
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Irene	Grand	Strafford
d	carr	Hanover
Neal	Ferris	Durham

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Rebecca	Audet	Exeter
Mary Ann	Toy	Chichester
Danny	Wouters	Epsom
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Jim	Sheff	wolfeboro
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Marion	Mengert	Exeter
John	davy	hancock
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Amanda	Purcell	Auburn
Susan	Ginsburg	Westmoreland
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Carol	Renwick	Wilton
Jonathan	Moulton	Wentworth
Roy	Wright	Orange
Judith	Blaisdell	Exeter
Janet	Martin	Hampton
lena	canepa	warner
Joseph	Desruisseaux	Rindge
John	Lawrence	Penacook
david	linnane	salisbury
Eric	Andrews	
Ma	Holland	Derry
Bruce	Farnum	New Boston
Nan	Manoogian	Nashua
Charles	McMahon	Concord
James	Carley	Keene
Bo	Guyer	
Tim	White	Effingham
Abigail	Beutler	Nashua
Rachel	Cilley	Madbury
Gudrun	Valentine	Dover

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victoria	smith	Grantham
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Tanya	Prather	Nashua
Hugh	Renwick	Wilton
carmelita	moe	andover
kerry	dolan	Nashua
Bill	Gealy	Danbury
Andrew	Mahn	Hill
Robert	Olcott	West Lebanon
Guy	Cordelle	Hancock
Marie	Metoyer	Manc hester
Karl	Carlson	Seabrook
Patricia	Paine	Hampton
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Peter	Martin	plymouth
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jim	crowley sr	walpole
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Mark	Reynolds	Antrim
E	Weiner	Concord
Hank	Ciofrone	Hollis
Eric	Smith	Portsmouth
Theresa	Ailen	Whitefield
Beverly	Grenert	Contoocook
Carol	Powley	Swanzey
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candace	licari	alstead
Donna	North	Dover
Richard	Devens	Center Sandwich
Pamela	LaCroix	Franklin
Ted	Vansant	Holderness
John	Raby	New London
Joseph	Brown	Canaan
Jonathan	Susi	Hudson
Ruth	Bell	Center Harbor
Bruce	Wechsler	Londonderry
Becky	Mulkern	Conway, NH
harlan	cheney	Atkinson
anne	wilber	marlborough
virginia	heard	sandwich
Brian	O'Brien	Hampton
Ross	King	Nashua
Jane	Theuner	Concord
Jack and Susan	Dixon	Candia-
Susan	Craig	Nashua
Virginia	Johnston	Pelham
Denis	Quinian	Canaan
Thomas	Forsyth	Hooksett
cristina	taylor	concord
chris	anctil	portsmouth
Kevin	Connors	Bradford
Jeremy	Thompson	North Haverhill
Sean	Moundas	Portsmouth
James and Jean	Jackson	Exeter
Dorothy	Caswell	Exeter
Mike	Bower	Francestown
Jane	Varnum	Greenfield
M C	Adams	Manchester
Robert Jay	Ross	Rochester
Peter	Bearse	N. Hampton,
Daniel	St. James	Amherst
David	Ellis	Newmarket

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David	Heller	Lebanon
Brendan	Curran	x
Laurel	Boyd	Peterborough
Gordon	Lang	Ossipee
Waiter	Masten	Nashua
Wallace	Mac Ritchie	Pembroke
sharon	omand	strafford
Patrick & Penny	Eggleston	Amherst
Richard	Bourdon	Lyme
Mary	MacGillivray	Mont Vernon
Sarah	Willis	Westmoreland
Alexander	ADAMS	Manchester
Steve	Cardwell	Durham
Barbara	Hirai	
Brandon	Jordan	Atkinson
Henri	Vaillancourt	greenville
Jeanne	Sable	
Lark	Hammond	
George	Manos	Danville
Andres	Caamano	Nashua
Karen	Fagerberg	Barrington
Melissa	Rigazio	New Castle
Robert	Dutton	North Conway
Carla	Meyers	North Hampton
Nancy	Dowey	Bristol
Ruth	Henderson	Barrington
Diana	Forbes	Piermont
Karen	Spencer	Stark
Brad	Jorgensen	Laconia
Paul	Marcoux	Pelham
Kerbert	Porter-Elliott	Peterborough
William	Klessens	Salem
Franklin	Irwin	CONCORD
John	Pappalardo	
Benjamin	Pratt	
Linda	Ferland	Claremont
William	Graf	
Sumner	Roper	Nashua
Naomi	Hartov	Enfield
Helen	Tam-Semmens	Stoddard
chuck	mittchell	center harbor
Diane	Boilard	
arnie	burdick	Warner



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John	David	
Cheryl	Keefe	Salem
Patricia	Greene	Canaan, NH 03741
Jeffrey	Scott	
Dennis	Lintz	
David	London	Stratham
Phillip	Twombly	
George	Blaisdell	
Sheila	Oranch	
Garth	Fletcher	
Diane	Cordelle	
R. Scott	Semmens	
Janis	King	
ANDREW	TWOMBLY	
Erin	Marlowe	
Richard	Pollock	
Jonathan	Burson	
Gail	Munroe	
Kenneth	McKenzie	
Judith	Pettingell	
Alyson	Miller	
Karin	Mattson	
Virginia	Stowell	
Scott	Abercrombie	
Herb	Moyer	
Maureen	Quinn	
judith	Reeve	
Ellen	Gitomer	
Sandy	Woodcock	
william	meserve	
Judith	Kaufman	
Brenda	Rowman	
Alfred	Wilkinson	
Susan	Vallier	
Peter	Thompson	
Donna	Richards	
Raymond	Lanier	
Henry	Lahey	
Sharon	Frank	
Eleanor	Coffey	
Eleanor	Coffey	
Linda	Ruivo	
Robert	Naylor	

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Linda
Ronald
Kenyon
Terry B
Gregory

Paquin
Kohlhorst
Karl
Smith
Smith



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It seems to me corporations want it both ways. When they want to influence elections by pouring unlimited amounts of money into a campaign, they're people and declare that money is speech. But when they do harm to the environment and cause human suffering, they're corporations so they don't have to personally take responsibility for their actions. If I poured hundreds of gallons of oil into a river or gave people a drug that killed them, I would go to jail because I'm a person. If a corporation does it, it pays back a small portion of its profits. Corporations shouldn't get to have it both ways. Corporations are not people. Real people die when they get old and go to jail when they break the law.

The U.S. Constitution says "We the people." It says nothing about corporations. The Constitution's framers were very clear that economic interests did not have the same rights as citizens. The Revolutionary War was fought against unfair and excessive economic exploitation by Great Britain. But over the years, the balance of power between individuals and corporations has swung away from average citizens to the richest and most powerful institutions. While people have many varied goals, corporations only have one goal and that is maximum profits for the stockholders.

Ninety-six percent of Americans believe there is too much money in politics. It's hard to get 96% of Americans to agree on anything, but they do agree on this. We all know there is something definitely wrong in this country and something must be done to correct it. Corporations, whether for-profit or non-profit, and that includes labor unions, should not be awarded the same rights as people under the Constitution.

One final thing, many of these multinational corporations have found ways to keep their profits offshore so that in many cases they pay very few, and in some cases, no taxes at all. And that includes Boeing, GE and Verizon which have paid no federal income taxes for the last five years, despite profits in the billions. I can't imagine any scenario in which you or I would be allowed to pay no federal taxes on our earned income. That's because we are people.

All change starts at the bottom. And we the people want to send a message to the Federal government that Citizens United should and must be overturned.

Pamela Martin
Plymouth, NH

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Date: 03/11/2014

THE COMMITTEE ON Rules, Enrolled Bills and Internal Affairs

to which was referred Senate Bill 307

AN ACT

establishing a committee to review Citizens United
amendments to the United States Constitution.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill:

OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

BY A VOTE OF: 4-0

AMENDMENT # 0934s

Senator Martha Fuller Clark
For the Committee

Jennifer Horgan 271-3091

New Hampshire General Court - Bill Status System

Docket of SB307

Docket Abbreviations

Bill Title: establishing a committee to review Citizens United amendments to the United States Constitution.

Official Docket of SB307:

Date	Body	Description
12/17/2013	S	Introduced 1/8/2014 and Referred to Rules Enrolled Bills and Internal Affairs
2/6/2014	S	===CANCELLED=== Hearing: 2/19/14, Room 103, SH, 10:30 a.m.; SC6
2/26/2014	S	===RESCHEDULED=== Hearing: 3/4/14, Room 100, SH, 1:45 p.m.; SC8
3/14/2014	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment # 2014-0934s , 3/27/14; SC11
3/27/2014	S	Committee Amendment 0934s, AA, RC 24Y-0N ; SJ 8
3/27/2014	S	Sen. Fuller Clark Floor Amendment # 2014-1189s , AF, RC 12Y-12N ; SJ 8
3/27/2014	S	Ought to Pass with Amendment 0934s, MA, RC 23Y-1N ; OT3rdg
4/1/2014	H	Introduced (In Recess, 3/26/14) and Referred to State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs
4/2/2014	H	Public Hearing: 4/24/2014 1:00 PM LOB 203
4/2/2014	H	Executive Session: 5/1/14 11:00 AM LOB 203
5/6/2014	H	Majority Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment # 2014-1600h (Vote 8-5; RC); HC 35
5/6/2014	H	Minority Committee Report: Inexpedient to Legislate
5/15/2014	H	Amendment # 2014-1600h AA VV
5/15/2014	H	Ought to Pass with Amendment #1600h MA RC 183-87
5/22/2014	S	Sen. Prescott Moved Nonconcur with House Amendment #1600h; Requests C of C, MA, RC 12Y-11N ; SJ 14
5/22/2014	S	President Appoints: Senators Bradley, Prescott, and Fuller Clark; SJ 14
5/22/2014	H	Rep Almy moved to accede to request for C of C; MA VV (In recess of 5/15/14)
5/22/2014	H	Speaker Appoints: Theberge, Massimilla, L. Carey, Priestley
5/27/2014	S	Conferee Change; Senator Carson Replaces Senator Prescott
5/27/2014	S	Committee of Conference Meeting: 5/28/2014, 3:30 p.m., Room 100, State House
5/28/2014	S	Conferee Change; Senator Rausch Replaces Senator Carson
5/28/2014	H	Conferee Change: Rep K. Williams Replaces Rep Carey
5/28/2014	S	Committee of Conference Meeting: 5/29/2014, 1:00 p.m., Room 103, State House
6/2/2014	H	Committee of Conference Report: Not signed off; HC 42A , PG. 2000

NH House

NH Senate

Other Referrals

COMMITTEE REPORT FILE INVENTORY

SB307 ORIGINAL REFERRAL

_____ RE-REFERRAL

1. THIS INVENTORY IS TO BE SIGNED AND DATED BY THE COMMITTEE AIDE AND PLACED INSIDE THE FOLDER AS THE FIRST ITEM IN THE COMMITTEE FILE.
2. PLACE ALL DOCUMENTS IN THE FOLDER FOLLOWING THE INVENTORY IN THE ORDER LISTED.
3. THE DOCUMENTS WHICH HAVE AN "X" BESIDE THEM ARE CONFIRMED AS BEING IN THE FOLDER.
4. THE COMPLETED FILE IS THEN DELIVERED TO THE CALENDAR CLERK.

DOCKET (Submit only the latest docket found in Bill Status)

COMMITTEE REPORT

CALENDAR NOTICE

HEARING REPORT

PREPARED TESTIMONY AND OTHER SUBMISSIONS HANDED IN AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

SIGN-UP SHEET(S)

ALL AMENDMENTS (passed or not) CONSIDERED BY COMMITTEE:

- AMENDMENT # 0702s - AMENDMENT # 0898s
 - AMENDMENT # 0934s _____ - AMENDMENT # _____

ALL AVAILABLE VERSIONS OF THE BILL:

AS INTRODUCED

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE (IF AMENDED)

_____ OTHER (Anything else deemed important but not listed above, such as amended fiscal notes):

DATE DELIVERED TO SENATE CLERK

7/3/14

BY:



COMMITTEE AIDE