

## Call to Amend the Constitution on Corporate Personhood

1. The *Citizens United v. FEC* decision of the Supreme Court **eliminated the legal limits on corporate spending to influence elections.** It upholds the notion that corporations have constitutional rights and that money spent on political campaigns is protected under “free speech”.
2. **Already billions of dollars are being spent on negative ads,** which often misinform voters rather than lead to productive discussion of the states’ and nation’s most important issues.
3. Unless the Supreme Court decides to reverse this decision, the **only way to correct it is to amend** the US Constitution.
4. While this is a national issue, **it is at the heart of our democratic form of governance,** right down to the community level. See article “Are Constitutional Rights a Local Issue?”
5. **This is not a partisan issue.** In an independent poll, 60% of Republicans, 63% of Democrats, and 67% of Independents who have heard about *Citizens United* think the new rules have a negative effect on campaigns. (<http://www.people-press.org/2012/01/17/super-pacs-having-negative-impact-say-voters-aware-of-citizens-united-ruling/>)
6. **The majority of small businesses also see this as a concern.** In an independent poll, 66% of small business owners view the *Citizens United* decision as bad for small business, and 88% held a negative view of money in politics overall. (<http://mainstreetalliance.org/5487/smallbusiness-v-citizensunited/#more-5487>)
7. **Campaign finance reform is a conservative legacy.**
  - In a recent Republican Primary Vote in Wisconsin, voters approved a resolution calling for an amendment to the US Constitution to establish that corporations are not people and money is not speech.
  - In the words of conservative icon Barry Goldwater, “Our nation faces a crisis of liberty if we do not control campaign expenditures.”
  - The Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 was introduced by Senator John McCain and signed into law by George W. Bush in 2003.
  - Republican Senator Warren Rudman of New Hampshire recently wrote in favor of limiting campaign contributions, stating that “free speech can hardly be called free when only the rich are heard.”
8. **Resolutions are being passed across the nation at the state, city and local levels.** Many organizations and tens of thousands of persons across this nation, including several communities around Alaska, are joining in this move to amend the US constitution. See <http://united4thepeople.org/state-and-local-support-2/>

### Partisans Agree on Negative Effects of New Rules

	All voters	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Heard about	54	51	54	56
<b>Among those who have heard</b>				
<i>Effect on campaign</i>				
Negative effect	65	60	63	67
Positive effect	16	17	21	12
No effect	10	16	6	11
Mixed/DK	9	7	10	10
	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 11-16, 2012. Q59-Q61. Based on registered voters (N=1,207). Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.