

**RESOLUTION OF THE SAN FRANCISCO DEMOCRATIC PARTY DECLARING ITS  
OPPOSITION TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT'S DECISION IN *CITIZENS  
UNITED V. FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION* AND SUPPORTING A  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO OVERTURN *CITIZENS UNITED***

**WHEREAS**, free and fair elections are essential to democracy and effective self-governance; and, in *Citizens United v. the Federal Elections Commission*, the United States Supreme Court rolled back federal restrictions on corporate spending in the electoral process, allowing unlimited corporate spending to influence elections, candidate selection and policy decisions; and, the *Citizens United* decision granted corporations unprecedented influence in democratic elections while permitting them to hide their involvement, thereby threatening the voices of the electorate and the foundation of democracy; and the *Citizens United* decision may supersede state and local efforts to regulate corporate activity in their campaign finance laws; and

**WHEREAS**, corporations have used the “rights” bestowed upon them by the courts to overturn democratically enacted laws that were passed at municipal, state and federal levels to curb corporate abuse, thereby impairing local governments’ ability to protect their citizens against corporate harms to the environment, to health, to workers, to independent businesses, to local and regional economies; and

**WHEREAS**, members of both houses of the United States Congress have introduced proposed amendments to the United States Constitution that would overturn the decision in *Citizens United*, and limit corporate influence over federal, state and local elections; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**: that the San Francisco Democratic Party hereby declares its opposition to the United States Supreme Court’s decision in *Citizens United v. the Federal Elections Commission*; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**: that the San Francisco Democratic Party calls on Congress to approve an amendment to the United States Constitution that would overturn the decision in *Citizens United* and limit corporate influence over federal, state and local elections; and that the San Francisco Democratic Party calls on the California Democratic Party and other communities and jurisdictions to join in this action by passing similar resolutions.

SUBMITTED BY: ALIX ROSENTHAL, DAVID CHIU, DEBRA WALKER, HENE KELLY,  
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Adopted by the SF Democratic County Committee on January 21, 2012