



North Carolina Voters for Clean Elections

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Greensboro Passes Resolution Calling on Congress to Overturn *Citizens United* Becomes 12th municipality in NC seeking reversal of Supreme Court decision

GREENSBORO — The Greensboro City Council became the 12th city in North Carolina to approve a resolution calling on Congress to overturn the Supreme Court decision, *Citizens United v. FEC*, and ensure the voices of ordinary voters aren't drowned out by special interest money.

The council voted 7-2 in favor of the resolution opposing *Citizens United*, which allowed corporations to spend unlimited funds on political advertising. Mayor Robbie Perkins joined councilors Yvonne Johnson, Nancy Vaughan, Marikey Abuzuaiter, Dianne Bellamy-Small, Jim Kee and Nancy Hoffman in support of the resolution, with councilors Zack Matheny and Trudy Wade opposed.

"The City of Greensboro joins Greenville, Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Highlands, Bryson City, Franklin, Sylva, Forest Hills and Asheville, municipalities comprising of **over 1 million residents**, in approving the resolution against corporate personhood," says Melissa Price Kromm, Director of North Carolina Voters for Clean Elections.

"A government "of, by and for the people" is the most basic promise of American democracy – but the U.S. Supreme Court's *Citizens United* ruling eroded this promise by deciding it is unconstitutional to limit the amount of money that corporations can spend to tell people to elect or defeat specific candidates, says Barbara Carrano, the lead organizer with the community based group People's Coalition Against Citizens United, which spearheaded the campaign to pass the resolution. "Our government is so trapped, so immobilized by special interest money that amending the Constitution is the only effort strong enough to truly rescue democracy. We have no recourse but to ask our local government to speak out against big money in politics."

"The tide is turning," says Melissa Price Kromm, Director of North Carolina Voters for Clean Elections. "Greensboro's vote, North Carolina's third largest city, shows that pressure is growing to find solutions to the problem of big money in politics."

New polling data from Democracy Corps shows that 78% of voters say it is important for their candidate to come up with a new plan to reduce the amount of money in politics and the influence of Super PACs. "This research shows that by more than a 2 to 1 margin, voters say that the current system of "big donors and secret money undermine democracy, says Kromm."

<http://www.democracycorps.com/Battleground-Surveys/in-congressional-battleground-voters-intensely-concerned-about-money-in-politics/>