



North Carolina Voters for Clean Elections

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## **Raleigh Passes Resolution Calling on Congress to Overturn *Citizens United***

### **Becomes 9<sup>th</sup> municipality in N.C. seeking reversal of Supreme Court decision that opened new flood of money into politics**

RALEIGH — The Raleigh City Council today approved 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 6-2 in favor of the resolution opposing *Citizens United*, which allowed corporations to spend unlimited funds on political advertising. Nationally, a growing network of lawmakers and citizens are calling on Congress to pass an amendment to reverse the court's decision.

Mayor Nancy McFarlane, along with councilors Thomas Crowder (sponsor), Randall Stagner, Mary Ann Baldwin, Russ Stephenson and Eugene Weeks supported the resolution, with councilors Bonner Gaylord and John Odom opposed.

"The City of Raleigh joins Durham, Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Highlands, Bryson City, Franklin, Sylva and Asheville in approving the resolution against corporate personhood, says Stacie Borrello, a leader in the Raleigh Action Collective. "Similar bills have been filed in the North Carolina General Assembly, but the current leadership is seeking to bury them."

"It's a good day for democracy when elected leaders work together to take money out of politics, but there is still more work to be done," says Melissa Price Kromm, Director of North Carolina Voters for Clean Elections. "We must urge our leaders to require immediate disclosure of all contributions and create new streams of clean, public money to fund campaigns so that our government represents voters, not corporate donors and special interests."

The resolution read in part "unregulated and excessive expenditures by any organization could allow corruption of the electoral process and encourage public officials to vote against the interests of their constituents in order to receive financial support"

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