

Article 20: Non-binding resolution submitted by citizen's petition.

We the undersigned, registered voters of Charlemont, MA, request that the town vote on a nonbinding resolution. To wit:

We, the voters of the Charlemont Town Meeting, affirm our belief that the first Amendment to the United States Constitution was designed to protect the free speech rights of people, not corporations.

We believe that the United States Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United v. FEC, which overturned longstanding precedents prohibiting corporations from spending their general treasury funds in public elections, is a serious and direct threat to our democracy and the conduct of free and fair elections, and permits corporations to drown out the voices of ordinary persons.

The people of the United States have previously used the constitutional amendment process to correct decisions of the United States Supreme Court that invade and invalidate democratic institutions, including elections.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the voters of the Charlemont Town Meeting, call upon the United States Congress to pass and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to restore the first amendment and fair elections to the people, and further, we call upon the Massachusetts General Court to pass one or more resolutions asking for those actions.

A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the State and Federal Representatives and Senators serving Charlemont and to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the President of the United States.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

Passed by a majority

Article 21: Voted to adopt a General By-law, as on file with the Town Clerk, to prohibit individuals classified as Level 2 or Level 3 sex offenders pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 6, S 178C, from establishing a residence within 1,250 feet of any school.

Sex Offender Residency Restrictions

I. Determinations and intent.

A. It is the intent of this by-law to protect the Town's interest to promote and protect the public health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town of Charlemont by creating areas around locales where children regularly congregate and wherein certain sex offenders are prohibited from establishing temporary or permanent residence.