

*Town of Framingham  
Annual Town Meeting  
April 24, 2012*

*ARTICLE 5*

To see if the Town will vote to approve a resolution that the Town of Framingham call upon the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth to support a resolution as provided in the background materials to this warrant, requesting Congress to pass and send to the States for ratification a constitutional amendment to give Congress and the States the power to regulate and set reasonable limits on all election contributions and expenditures, including a candidate's own spending, and to authorize the establishment of political committees to receive, spend, and publicly disclose the sources of those contributions and expenditures.

**Sponsor: Board of Selectmen**

**April 24, 2012 Voted:**

Whereas, corporations should not be considered natural persons with constitutional rights equal to the rights of real people;

Whereas, corporations are created by the people and are subject to regulation by the people;

Whereas, the present system of campaign financing is dramatically diluting the voice of Americans who do not control a large corporate treasury by enabling anonymous corporate super-PACs to overwhelm voters and threaten public officials with massive negative campaign advertising;

Whereas, it is not in the interest of our democratic form of government that corporations be able to make any campaign contributions or election expenditures;

Whereas, the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Citizens United v FEC* presents a serious and direct threat to our democracy;

Whereas, Congress and the States have the power to regulate campaign finances;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Framingham calls upon the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth to support a resolution requesting Congress to pass and send to the States for ratification a constitutional amendment to give Congress and the States the power to regulate and set reasonable limits on all election contributions and expenditures, including a candidate's own spending, and to authorize the establishment of political committees to receive, spend and publicly disclose the sources of those contributions and expenditures.