

On Thu, Jun 13, 2013 at 11:25 AM, Laura Johnston  
ljohnston@oakbluffsma.gov wrote:

Hi Nick, following is the article (#17) voted at our Annual Town Meeting  
April 10, 2012. Hope this helps.

Laura

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\*Article 17.\* Voted to instruct the Selectmen to communicate to the  
Massachusetts State Senate and House the support of the citizens of the  
town of Oak Bluffs for Senate Bill 772, Restoring Free Speech, which is as  
follows:\*\*\*\*

WHEREAS, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution was  
designed to protect the free speech rights of people, not corporations;\*\*\*  
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WHEREAS, for the past three decades, a divided United States Supreme Court  
has transformed the First Amendment into a powerful tool for corporations  
seeking to evade and invalidate democratically-enacted reforms;\*\*\*\*

\*\* \*\*

WHEREAS, this corporate takeover of the First Amendment has reached its  
extreme conclusion in the United States Supreme Court's recent ruling in  
Citizens United v. FEC;\*\*\*\*

\*\* \*\*

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United v.  
FEC overturned longstanding precedent prohibiting corporations from  
spending their general treasury funds in our elections;\*\*\*\*

\*\* \*\*

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United v.  
FEC will now unleash a torrent of corporate money in our political process  
unmatched by any campaign expenditure totals in United States history;\*\*\*\*

\*\* \*\*

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

\*\* \*\*

WHEREAS, the people of the United States have previously used the  
constitutional amendment process to correct those egregiously wrong  
decisions of the United States Supreme Court that go to the heart of our  
democracy and self-government;\*\*\*\*

\*\* \*\*

Now be it resolved that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereby calls  
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. \*\*\*\*

\*By Petition\*