

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;****

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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;****

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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;****

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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;****

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

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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;****

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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