



TOWN OF PELHAM

Rhodes Building 351 Amherst Road 01002

413-253-0512

Town Clerk

Dear Mr Nick Bokron;

Here is the Article and the votes that you requested by phone on 6/14/2013

Article 41.

We, the voters of Pelham 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 allows corporations and unions to give unlimited funds to advocacy groups to influence elections, and the billions of dollars corporations spend in lobbying, greatly outweighing amounts spent by unions and public-interest groups, threaten democracy by allowing corporations to cause the election of candidates who will serve themselves, not ordinary citizens.

The people of the United States through their legislators have previously amended the Constitution to regulate elections and federal officeholding nine times.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE VOTERS OF THE PELHAM TOWN MEETING, CALL UPON THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS AND SEND TO THE STATES FOR RATIFICATION A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO SPECIFY THAT CONSTITUTIONAL PERSONHOOD RIGHTS ARE FOR NATURAL PERSONS ONLY, AND TO RESTORE THE PEOPLES RIGHTS TO FAIRNESS IN ELECTIONS AND INFLUENCE ON GOVERNMENT POLICY, AND FURTHER, WE CALL UPON THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT TO PASS ONE OR MORE RESOLUTIONS ASKING THOSE ACTIONS.

We ask Pelham officials to send a copy of this resolution to the state and federal representatives and senators serving Pelham, and to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the President of the United States.

Citizen petition

Discussion included other towns being asked to put this on town meeting warrant for vote. Response by Roger Conant sponsor. Motion to amend by Daniel Rose to add the words "and unions" to end of first paragraph after corporations; and add the words "and unions" to the second paragraph after the words and the billions of dollars corporations continuing the sentence with spend in lobbying etc. Discussion that the words in bold print are the actual directive. Amendment Vote 6 yes votes and 24 no votes
Amendment Fails **Vote on original article Passed with 2 Nays**

Sincerely

Kathleen Martell