



SF 2404 Constituent Letter/Email Writing and Calling Guide

Purpose: To ask your MN state senator to vote YES on SF 2404 and ask your representative to co-author a companion bill in the House

Minnesota's We the People Act (SF 2404) was introduced by Senator John Marty on March 8, 2016.

Your help is needed to get the vital support of Minnesota's senators and representatives. Minnesota can be the 17th state to support a U.S. constitutional amendment to end corporate personhood and that spending money to influence elections is not speech protected by the First Amendment.

Please write a letter to or call your MN state senator and representative. When several letters or calls are received on one issue they view it as a hot issue and it can influence their position. Invite a friend for coffee and each write a letter. If attending a meeting, please ask everyone to write letters or make calls.

Here are points to include:

1. You are a constituent
2. Personal connection you have or may have had, if any
3. Name of bill: SF 2404 - We the People bill
4. Briefly describe the bill, such as something similar to, " SF 2404 is a bill requesting Congress to propose a constitutional amendment clarifying that the rights protected under the Constitution are the rights of natural persons and not the rights of artificial entities, and that spending money to influence elections is not speech under the First Amendment."
5. Why you support this bill; consider the concerns of your senator and representative. You could mention the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision in some way, as most people know about it and have an opinion on it. Here are a couple examples of points to make.
 - a. Corporate Personhood: In our democracy of, by and for the people, corporations are not persons. When corporations reach the size that they have today, they begin to overwhelm the political institutions that can keep them in check. Big corporations result in big government: large subsidies, overproduction and ill-informed contracts.
 - b. Money is not speech: Ordinary constituents are more and more marginalized as large amounts of money from legal entities and wealthy individuals are permitted without regulation. The trend is that local campaigns are disproportionately financed by money coming from outside the district.
6. The amendment convention language makes this bill meaningful and enforceable.
 - a. An example of the need for the amendment convention language was when the U.S. Congress failed to propose a constitutional amendment providing for the direct election of senators, a majority of the states, including Minnesota, applied for a constitutional convention.
 - b. Even though it is hard to imagine an elected congressional delegate who would give away their power to a convention this language provides necessary leverage.
7. 16 others states have made commitments in support of amending the U.S. Constitution to end corporate personhood and to declare that money is not speech.

To find the address and phone number of your representative, go to:

<http://www.gis.leg.mn/OpenLayers/districts/>

When you have sent the messages please report the senate and house districts to minnesota@movetoamend.org.

Thanks for becoming part of the MTA team working to re-build a democracy of, by and for the people.