

RESOLUTION NO. 13-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OAK HARBOR, ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON,
SUPPORTING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REGULATE CORPORATE
POLITICAL SPENDING AND CORPORATE CAMPAIGN FINANCING

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Harbor seeks to nurture and expand democracy in our community, our state and in our nation, and we believe that free and fair elections are essential to fulfilling the promise of our American democracy and effective self-governance; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Harbor believes that the granting of constitutional protections of non-natural corporate “persons” transgresses the rights of living, breathing persons to have their voices heard and that corporations should not have a constitutionally protected right to donate unregulated amounts of money to political campaigns; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Harbor holds that corporations are legal entities separate and apart from human beings which can and should be granted specific legal rights by federal, state and local law, but which rights should not extend to the rights of natural living, breathing persons which are enumerated in the Constitution of the United States of America.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF OAK HARBOR, ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON:

The City of Oak Harbor, Washington, hereby calls upon the Washington State Legislature and the United States Congress to initiate steps to amend the United States Constitution with provisions which state clearly as follows:

- (1) Corporations are not human beings, and only human beings are endowed with Constitutional rights;
- (2) Contributions and expenditures for political purposes are not Constitutionally-protected speech. Therefore, the regulation of political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech;
- (3) Congress and the States shall have the power to regulate contributions and expenditures for campaigns and ballot measures, and to require public disclosure of the sources of such contributions and expenditures.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Oak Harbor this 5th day of March 2013.

CITY OF OAK HARBOR

Approved ()
Vetoed ()

Scott Dudley, Mayor
Date: March 5, 2013

ATTEST:

Approved as to Form:

City Clerk

City Attorney