Responses to Excuses by Opponents

Corporations ARE People
This is a myth created by corporations over 100 years, and inculcated into precedence by the Supreme Court in several cases. Yes, corporations have people in them. A corporation is an artificial entity – created by the state. It’s a legal container. Jelly beans are kept in a jar. A jar is not a jelly bean.

People should be able to spend their money on whatever they want
Putting limits on contributions would only affect the top tenth of one percent. That’s the donor class - People with $100M and up. Only a quarter of a percent of people give > $200 to a campaign. Small donors are getting no representation for their money. What about their rights? Our politicians are basically controlled by mega-millionaires, billionaires and the corporate elite. The American dream is gone – and at this point, we’re living in a plutocracy.

If you take away corporate rights, it'll cause all kinds of problems
This a smoke screen. Corporations would go back to having privileges. The legal framework regarding corporate privileges dates back to the 1600s in England. We got along fine without corporate rights for the first 100+ years of our country. This legal framework regarding corporate privileges is still there. Once we pass this amendment Congress will be free to come up with a new, reasonable campaign finance system without interference from an elitist Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has ruled, so it's final
The Supreme Court also came up with the Dred Scott decision. Historians are still arguing about which was worst: Citizens United or Dred Scott. The Supreme Court’s mistakes can only be durably corrected by a U.S. Constitution amendment.

The Constitution shouldn’t be changed
The Constitution said slaves are 3/5th of a person and only men can vote. The Constitution has been amended 27 times and it’s being corruptly misinterpreted at this point and needs clarification.

The government can’t be trusted to implement campaign finance rules
We the People are supposed to be the government. Currently, the government is only a tool used by the politicians to rule over us. If we want good government, We the People have to change that by amending the constitution so we can elect politicians who are good – that is, who represent us, not their big money funders.

This is a federal issue
The U.S. Constitution gives the states the right to create amendments, without the federal government, specifically because the framers expected the federal government to not always do the right thing. They suspected that one day the federal government might be so corrupt, the states would have to get involved in trying to save the American Democratic Republic. Congress isn’t going to fix this on their own. Not until millions of Americans are screaming for it. Across the country, over five million people have signed petitions for this. Over 820 communities and 20 states have called for an amendment to get big money out of politics so far. Wisconsin should be on that list. Half of Wisconsin lives in jurisdictions that have voted for this. At least 80% of Wisconsin wants this amendment.
This is a liberal issue
No, it isn’t. Polls show over 90% of Americans think campaign cash causes corruption. Here in Wisconsin over 80% think we should amend the Constitution to fix this problem. There are plenty of billionaires on both sides of the aisle. Both parties put their quest for power and profit over the needs and right of the people.

Local governments have no business telling higher levels of government what to do
We provide a short answer and a long answer to this argument.

(Short version): Maintaining a functioning Republic is not a national issue – it is a citizen responsibility. Municipal involvement is not only appropriate, but necessary. When the upper levels of power no longer listen to the American people, the citizens need to build the power to demand representation. “We The People” includes the local representatives to support their effort to create change – citizen voting on referenda and municipal bodies passing resolutions in support of an amendment magnifies the voice for change. We are not telling them what they HAVE TO do, we are telling them what the people want them to do through referendum and resolution instruments of democracy.

(Long version): Maintaining a functioning Republic is not a national issue – it is a citizen responsibility. Municipal involvement is not only appropriate, but necessary. When the upper levels of power no longer listen to the American people, the citizens need to build the power to demand representation. We The People include the local representatives to support their effort to create change – citizen voting on referenda and municipal bodies passing resolutions in support of an amendment magnifies the voice for change. We are not telling them what they HAVE TO do, we are telling them what the people want them to do through referendum and resolution instruments of democracy.

The Framers created two paths for a constitutional amendment in Article V of the constitution. Either top down OR bottom up. For “top-down,” the congress creates an amendment for reform and gets the states to “ratify” or approve it. How many of you believe this is possible? By “bottom-up” the citizens get their states to call for amendment. The States create the amendment, then the States ratify it – w/o the need to involve the corrupted federal political system.

So, We The People have started a national movement to get our States to make this call for the amendment. We are doing this by asking our local councils and boards to give us a needed voice to our legislators. We are asking you to give the citizens of (your town) that voice by first putting our referendum on the ballot and then responding by passing our resolution for this call. Our individual voices have been muffled – we are asking for a community voice.