

RESOLUTION 2018 - 14

**RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER
SUPPORTING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**

WHEREAS, government of, by, and for the people has long been a cherished American value, and

WHEREAS, free and fair elections are essential to democracy and effective self-governance, and

WHEREAS, corporations are not and never have been human beings or persons, and therefore are rightfully subservient to human beings and governments as our legal creations; and rightly are provided ONLY privileges by the states, and

WHEREAS, in 1976 in the ruling on Buckley v. Valeo the untenable decision of the Supreme Court changed the course of American elections and established the doctrine that spending money to influence elections is a form of speech, and

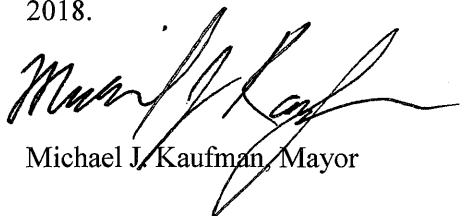
WHEREAS, on January 10, 2010, in Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission, the Supreme Court overturned a century of precedence by ruling that corporate spending on elections cannot be limited under the First Amendment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That "We the People" of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, seek to reclaim democracy from the expansion of corporate personhood rights and the corrupting influence of unregulated political contributions and spending. We stand with communities across the country to support passage of an amendment to the United States Constitution stating:

1. Only human beings are endowed with constitutional rights – not corporations, unions, nonprofits, or other artificial entities, and
2. Money is not speech, and therefore limiting political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting speech.

Further Resolved that the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to our state and federal representatives – instructing them to enact resolutions and legislation to advance this effort.

APPROVED, by the City Council of the City of Richland Center on this 18th day of December, 2018.



Michael J. Kaufman, Mayor

ATTEST:



Melinda D. Jones, City Clerk / Treasurer