

RESOLUTION 2024-23

RESOLUTION TO RELATING TO A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
REGARDING CITIZENS UNITED V. FEDERAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION

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, a corporation is not and never has been a human person, therefore is rightfully subservient to human beings and governments as our legal creation; and rightly are provided ONLY privileges by the states, and;

WHEREAS, interpretation of the U.S. Constitution by appointed Supreme Court Justices to include corporations in the term "persons" has long denied We the People's exercise of self-governance by endowing corporations with Constitutional protections intended by the framers ONLY for We the People, 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 precedents by ruling that corporate spending on elections cannot be limited under the First Amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Middleton that "We the People" of the City of Middleton, Wisconsin, seek to reclaim democracy from the expansion of corporate personhood rights and the corrupting influence of unlimited 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, therefore limiting political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting speech.

The above and foregoing resolution is duly adopted by the Middleton Common Council at a regular meeting held on the 7 day of May, 2024.

CITY OF MIDDLETON

By: _____

Emily Kuhn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lorie J. Burns, City Clerk