
RESOLUTION 2012-25

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ORFORD,
CALLING FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REAFFIRM AND PROTECT
FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS RESERVED FOR PEOPLE**

Thomas Jefferson was not referring to corporations, unions, or associations when he wrote "We the People"; and, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was written to protect the free speech rights of human beings;

WHEREAS a divided U.S. Supreme Court decision in "Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission" affords corporations, unions, and associations free speech rights to use their money to influence elections in their self interest; and

WHEREAS a priori, corporations, unions, and associations are not human beings and therefore are not entitled to inalienable rights, but rather legal constructs worthy only of alienable rights, and

WHEREAS money is a medium of exchange and assigned value that carries with it no specific political, social or ideological meaning and therefore, in and of itself, cannot equal speech, and

WHEREAS the torrent of corporate, union, and association money flowing into our political process presents a serious and immediate threat to our democracy, and

WHEREAS We the People of the United States have historically used the constitutional amendment process to protect our rights and ensure the spirit as well as the fact that our democratically elected government is focused entirely on those rights;

NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED by the *Common Council of the City of Port Orford*, to hereby call upon our state and federal representatives to support and create an Amendment to the Constitution of the United States to reaffirm and protect First Amendment rights rightly reserved for human persons.

Approved by the *Common Council of the City of Port Orford* and effective this 19th day of July 2012.

Jim Auburn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beverly Manes, City Recorder