



2012 Ballot Measure Victories

More than seven million voters had a chance to weigh in directly with their views regarding *Citizens United* in ballot measures this November. What they had to say was clear: corporations are not people, money is not free speech.

Montana: 75% YES

Montana Initiative 166 establishes an official Montana policy that corporations are not people with constitutional rights and charges Montana's elected officials with supporting a constitutional amendment to create a level playing field in campaign spending.

Colorado: 74% YES

Colorado's Amendment 65 instructs Colorado's congressional delegation to propose and support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that allows congress and the states to limit campaign contributions and spending in a way that will allow all citizens, regardless of wealth, to express their views to one another on a level playing field.

Massachusetts: 79% YES

Voters passed local measures in more than half of Massachusetts towns and cities in the state with the combined margin of 79%. The measures instruct their state senator or legislator to support a constitutional amendment affirming that 1) corporations are not entitled to the constitutional rights of human beings and 2) both Congress and the states may place limits on political contributions and political spending.

Richmond, CA: 72% YES

Richmond City Council was the first council to place a voter's instruction measure in front of the electorate on the this topic. Proposition P passed easily with 72% of the vote.

San Francisco, CA: 81% YES

In San Francisco voters went on record denouncing the *Citizens United* decision and stating "that corporations should not have the same constitutional rights as human beings and should be subject to political spending limits."

Chicago, IL: 74% YES

In Chicago the Take Back Our Vote measure asked, "Shall the U.S. Congress pass a bill, to be duly ratified by three-fourths of the states, adopting an amendment to the U.S. Constitution, empowering the federal government and the states to regulate and limit political contributions from corporations?" The answer from voters was a resounding "YES".

Local Oregon Measures:

Lincon County passed a measure with 77% support, while the cities of Ashland and Eugene passed measures with 80% and 73% of the vote respectively.

Partial List of Coalition Partners:

Colorado Supporters:

Colorado Common, Cause CoPIRG Colorado, Fair Share, The Aspen Daily News, The Boulder Weekly, Colorado Springs Independent, Glenwood Springs Post Independent, 9to5 Colorado, The Bell Policy Center, Auburn Seminary, CleanSlateNow.org, Colorado 350.org, Colorado Center on Law and Policy, Colorado Conservation Voters, Colorado Environmental Coalition, Colorado Progressive Coalition, Communications Workers of America, CREDO Action, Food & Water Watch, Free Speech for People, FRESC: Good Jobs, Strong Communities, The Interfaith Alliance of Colorado, MoveOn.org, NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado, New Era Colorado, People for the American Way, Planned Parenthood of the Rockies Votes, Progress Now Colorado, Public Citizen, Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center, Together Colorado

Montana Supporters:

Common Cause and Free Speech for People, MontPIRG Governor Brian Schwiezer (D), Lt Governor John Bohlinger (R), former Secretary of State Verner Bertleson (R), CREDO Action, Avaaz, Montana Conservation Voters, the League of Rural Voters, American Independent Business Alliance, Missoula Move to Amend, unPAC, Public Citizen, MEA-MFT, AFL-CIO, Montana Votes, and the Montana Organizing Project.

Select Polling Data from similar measures in MT and CO

In presidential elections, ballot measures generally have only a small role in generating voter turnout and voters are more focused on candidates. Ballot measures could be a much larger factor in an off-year local election, such as the May election in Los Angeles. Here is some data from how anti-corporate personhood measures impacted turnout in November 2012.

- **MODEST BOOST IN TURNOUT: MT Election Day Poll**

I-166 was modest motivator compared to other issues:

Which ballot measure motivated you most to vote?

- LR 120 – parental notification of abortions 21%
- LR 121– Banning state services for illegal aliens 12%
- LR 122—prohibiting health insurance mandates 12%
- IR 124 – limiting medical marijuana 35%
- I-166 – establish state policy that corporations aren't people 19%

- **MODEST BOOST IN TURNOUT: MT Election Day Poll**

I-166 was modest motivator compared to other issues, but more so for minorities and youth

Which ballot measure motivated you most to vote?

		base	non-white	18-29
LR 120 – parental notification of abortions	21%	--		18%
LR 121– Banning state services for illegal aliens	12%	14%		
LR 122—prohibiting health insurance mandates	12%	35%		18%
IR 124 – limiting medical marijuana	35%	7%		36%
I-166 – establish that corporations aren't people	19%	29%		27%

- **CANDIDATE FAVORABILITY: Swing Voters Care About this a lot**

Colorado May 2012 survey

78% of independents and 64% of those undecided between Obama and Romney agree with the statement that “reducing the influence of money and special interests in politics is one of the most important factors in my vote this November.

47% and 39%, respectively, strongly agree with that. 84% of independent women agree with that.

- **CANDIDATE FAVORABILITY**

Colorado May 2012 survey

Would you be more likely to vote for a candidate who SUPPORTED this measure - OR - would you be more likely to vote for a candidate who OPPOSED this measure?

More likely to vote for a candidate who SUPPORTED it 36%

More likely to vote for a candidate who OPPOSED it 6%

CANDIDATE FAVORABILITY: MT Election Results

Montana Election Results

Senator Tester (D) and AG Bullock (D) (running for governor) campaigned against Citizens United and for I-166, and defeated Republican statewide candidates who supported Citizens United

Congressman elect Steve Daines (R) and Mitt Romney (R) won statewide while being silent on I-166

