

AUG 19 2011

11-0002-5123

RESOLUTION
MOTION

INFORMATION TECH. & GOVT. AFFAIRS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court's 5-4 ruling in *Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission* rolled back legal restrictions on corporate spending in the electoral process, allowing unlimited corporate spending to influence elections, candidate selection, and policy decisions, thereby threatening the voices of "We the People" and the very foundation of our democracy; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black in a 1938 opinion stated, "I do not believe the word 'person' in the Fourteenth Amendment includes corporations"; and

WHEREAS, the *Citizens* decision supersedes state and local efforts to regulate corporate activity in their elections;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Motion, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2011-2012 Federal and State Legislative Programs SUPPORT for legislative actions ensuring corporations are not entitled to the entirety of protections or "rights" of human beings, specifically so that the expenditure of corporate money to influence the electoral process is no longer a form of constitutionally protected speech.

PRESENTED BY: E. G. Arcetti
ERIC GARCETTI
Councilmember, 13th District

Bill Rosendahl
BILL ROSENDAHL
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY: Paul Krekorian

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