SENATE MEMORIAL 3

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012

INTRODUCED BY

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A MEMORIAL

EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT RULING
IN CITIZENS UNITED V. FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION CONCERNING
CORPORATE CAMPAIGN SPENDING AND REQUESTING CONGRESS TO PROPOSE
AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2010, the United States supreme
court, by a five to four decision in Citizens United v. Federal
Election Commission, overturned several important provisions of
the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002, as well as earlier
supreme court decisions, and swept away a century of tradition
barring corporate spending in elections in the United States;
and

WHEREAS, the United States supreme court's ruling holds
that corporations are people with free speech rights under the
United States constitution and may engage in unlimited...
corporate spending in elections; and

   WHEREAS, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*
unleashes a torrent of corporate money into the political
process unmatched by any campaign expenditure totals in United
States history; and

   WHEREAS, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*
purports to invalidate state laws and even state constitutional
provisions separating corporate money from elections; and

   WHEREAS, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*
presents a serious and direct threat to republican democracy; and

   WHEREAS, the decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* grants excessive power to corporate
interests and threatens to overwhelm the voices of individual
citizens in the political process; and

   WHEREAS, Article V of the United States constitution
empowers and obligates the people and states of the United
States of America to use the constitutional amendment process
to correct those egregiously wrong decisions of the United
States supreme court that go to the heart of democracy and
republican self-government; and

   WHEREAS, the people and states of the United States of
America have strengthened the nation and preserved liberty and
equality for all by using the amendment process throughout
history, including in seven of the ten decades of the twentieth

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century, and through the amendment process have reversed seven erroneous supreme court decisions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it express strong opposition to the United States supreme court's decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission and call upon the United States congress to propose and send to the states for ratification an amendment to the United States constitution to restore republican democracy to the people of the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the members of the New Mexico congressional delegation.

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