

Reclaiming democracy for people

Creating support for a constitutional amendment to end corporate "personhood", permanently overturn the *Citizens United* ruling - and similar rulings favoring corporate power, and stop undue influence by Wall Street for-profit corporations in election outcomes and lawmaking

Goals, objectives and plans

The fight to amend the U.S. Constitution is really about political power - who should set the rules governing the economy and the priorities and public policies by which we live.

A campaign to end corporate "personhood" and limit corporate power is unlikely to prevail until and unless a "tipping point" is reached among the general population - a point where public opinion and passion for change is sufficiently in favor of fundamental reform to allow a constitutional amendment despite the resistance and push-back of those who benefit from the status quo.

We should acknowledge that this issue - whether to support an amendment to the constitution - is probably not on the top of the "to-do" list of most people right now. That must change - through rising public awareness that such a reform is necessary - both to fix the country and to reverse the economic difficulties faced by most households. It's a tall order.

Objectives:

- Congressional action to propose a constitutional amendment, to end corporate "personhood" and lavish spending by corporate entities to influence election outcomes, drowning the citizen voice.
- Generate popular support for - and lobby for - adoption of specific resolutions or pledges of support (for Congress to develop and offer a constitutional amendment), by local and state organizations, local and county elected councils, the state legislature, and federal elected representatives.
- Raise awareness among the general population about the undue influence of wealth and corporate power over campaigns, election results, and propaganda to shape voter opinions - and the influence of this on specific lawmaking and public policy in general.
- Raise public awareness about the history of corporate "personhood" in law and judicial decisions - to explain why constitutional changes are necessary to limit corporate influence.
- Create awareness and support for a growing popular movement to overturn the *Citizens United* ruling - likely through a constitutional amendment - and the necessity and practicality of that reform.

Specific plans and activities:

1. Develop and circulate organizing tools, such as:

Citizens' Petition, to overturn the *Citizens United* ruling through a constitutional amendment.

(to start conversations; add names to our supporter database; and to demonstrate popular support)

Fliers and handouts, such as: *How Am I Affected? Why a Constitutional Amendment? What Can I Do?*

2. Organize house party gatherings: Show "The Story of *Citizens United*.." Discuss the issues, and the campaign for a constitutional amendment.
3. Develop a speakers bureau. Offer presentations to groups. Provide training workshops and coaching of speakers. Solicit and arrange speaking opportunities.
4. Arrange public forums and similar events, to feature acclaimed speakers and to inform, inspire and motivate the base of potential supporters to become involved in this campaign.
5. Meet with elected officials - to urge their support, and to urge adoption of resolutions.
6. Gather information on corporate influence over specific issues, lawmaking and public policy - in order to demonstrate how ending corporate personhood would improve life for most individual households.
7. Support advocacy campaigns to end corporate influence in areas of daily concern (such as banking, environment, job loss, tax and budget policy, health care - wherever corporate political power is affecting the daily lives of Main Street households) -- as a means to raise popular awareness of the need to overturn corporate personhood through a constitutional amendment.