
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THAT THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION ONLY PROTECTS
RIGHTS OF NATURAL PERSONS.

1 WHEREAS, free and fair elections are essential to American
2 democracy and effective self-governance; and

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4 WHEREAS, individual persons are recognized as natural
5 persons who actually vote in elections; and

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7 WHEREAS, corporations are artificial entities that
8 governments create; and

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10 WHEREAS, corporations do not vote in elections and should
11 not be categorized as persons for purposes related to elections
12 for public office; and

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14 WHEREAS, corporations are not mentioned in the United
15 States Constitution, as adopted, nor have Congress and the
16 states recognized corporations as legal persons in any
17 subsequent federal constitutional amendment; and

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19 WHEREAS, the rights protected by the United States
20 Constitution are the rights of natural persons only; and

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22 WHEREAS, the privileges of artificial entities should be
23 determined by the people through federal, state, or local law,
24 and should not be construed to be inherent or inalienable; and

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26 WHEREAS, corporations are not and have never been natural
27 persons and therefore are subservient to natural persons and the
28 governments that are their creators; and

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30 WHEREAS, the profits and institutional survival of large
31 corporations often conflict with the essential needs and rights
32 of natural persons; now therefore



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2 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
3 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
4 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that this body urges Congress to
5 propose an amendment to the United States Constitution for the
6 states' consideration which provides that corporations are not
7 persons under the laws of the United States or any of its
8 jurisdictional subdivisions; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the adoption
11 of federal, state, and local laws that will regulate, limit, or
12 prohibit contributions and expenditures, including a candidate's
13 own contributions and expenditures, for the purpose of
14 influencing the election of any candidate for public office or
15 any ballot measure in any way; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the adoption
18 of federal, state, and local government laws that will require
19 public disclosure of any permissible contributions and
20 expenditures; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the judiciary is urged not to
23 construe the spending of money to influence elections as
24 protected speech under the First Amendment; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing in this Concurrent
27 Resolution shall be construed as to abridge the freedom of the
28 press; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's
32 congressional delegation, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
33 of the State of Hawaii, the Chief Election Officer, and the
34 Attorney General.
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OFFERED BY: 

JAN 13 2012

