

National Federation of Democratic Women
Resolution Advocating Measures to Restore Democracy

WHEREAS, government of, by and for the people has long been a cherished American value and fundamental to democracy based on the tenet that human beings are endowed with the inalienable right to self-govern to secure the rights to life, liberty, property and the pursuit of happiness as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and outlined in the Declaration of Independence;

WHEREAS, corporations are never mentioned in the Constitution and are human-made legal fictions created by the permission of people through the government to conduct functions for the common good;

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court decisions in Citizens United vs. FEC and McCutcheon vs. FEC granted corporations and other artificial entities constitutional rights and protections originally held only by the people, and these include the same right of freedom of speech as human beings;

WHEREAS, as the result of these decisions, artificial entities can raise unlimited funds and expenditures in support of or opposition to any candidate for federal, state or local office or ballot initiative, undermining free and fair elections and resulting in a distorted and corrupt playing field;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Federation of Democratic Women urges the passage of state and federal legislation which clearly states corporations are not people with constitutional rights and that money does not equal first amendment speech.

Submitted by the Democratic Women's Club of Florida May 2017

Adopted by NFDW Membership at the 46th Annual Convention June 10, 2017