

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT THAT STATES CORPORATIONS ARE NOT PEOPLE AND CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NOT EQUIVALENT TO FREE SPEECH

WHEREAS, historically corporations were created as artificial entities subordinate to our democracy, yet the U.S. Supreme Court has granted corporations personhood status, free speech and other protections guaranteed to living humans by the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment, and the Cathedral City City Council considers it to be its right and duty to assert that corporations are not natural persons with human rights; and

WHEREAS, when freedom to speak is equated with freedom to spend money, millions of people who have less money are disenfranchised, thus denying their full rights to free speech; and

WHEREAS, Justice Stevens; writing in dissent in Citizens United, stated: "...corporations have no consciences, no beliefs, no feelings, no thoughts, and no desires. Corporations help structure and facilitate the activities of human beings, to be sure, and their "personhood" often serves as a useful legal fiction-, But they are not themselves members of "We the People" by whom and for whom our Constitution was established"; and

WHEREAS, United States Supreme Court Justice Stevens also observed in Nixon v. Shrink Missouri Government PAC (2000) that "money is property, it is not speech".

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE that we support a Constitutional amendment that states corporations are not people and campaign contributions are not equivalent to free speech.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2016.

Stanley E. Henry, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gary F. Howell, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Eric Vail, City Attorney

I, GARY F. HOWELL, CITY CLERK of the City of Cathedral City, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was introduced and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council held on the _____ day of _____, 2016 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Gary F, Howell, City Clerk