Corporations are not persons - they are legal constructs - and they should only possess the privileges citizens and our elected representatives willfully grant them. They should not be granted the full rights of natural persons - these were reserved for the American *people* in our Bill of Rights.

To restore our Constitution to its intended purpose and reclaim our democracy, Move to Amend proposes an amendment to reverse Corporate Personhood and limit corporations to their proper role: doing business.

We, the People of the United States of America, reject the U.S. Supreme Courts ruling, and call for a Constitutional Amendment that will:

- Abolish Corporate Personhood.
- Establish that money is not speech.

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Our mission is to:

Raise public awareness to encourage people into action to pass a ballot initiative that demands our elected officials abolish corporate personhood via a U.S. Constitutional Amendment.

We need people to:

- · Give presentations to local groups on our issue
- Canvas door to door to educate and petition
- · Help with fundraising
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- Network with other social and political groups



MOVE 10 AMEND

END CORPORATE RULE. LEGALIZE DEMOCRACY.

Working together on a national level to abolish Corporate Personhood and regain control of government of, by, and for **The People**.



Sign the petition at: MoveToAmend.org

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In Citizens United v. FEC, the U.S. Supreme Court relied on the illegitimate doctrine of Corporate Personhood to side 5-4 with the wealthy elite against the interests of the American people - overturning years of precedent, and allowing corporations to spend unlimited and anonymous money to buy our elections. But the Citizens United case is only a symptom of the *root cause*: corporate personhood. Corporate Personhood is not an inconsequential legal technicality. Literally hundreds - perhaps thousands - of local, state and federal laws that attempt to protect our elections, safety and health, environment, and right to organize have been overturned as a result of this erroneous doctrine.

Those who wished to end slavery came to understand the issue as one of human rights - and that the whole institution of slavery was fundamentally wrong. They didn't institute a Slavery Regulatory Agency or voluntary codes of conduct for slave owners. They called themselves *Abolitionists* — they agreed the whole thing had to go.

We view corporate personhood the same way. We see that corporate personhood was wrongly given — not by *We the People*, but by a few unelected, activist Supreme Court judges. **Slavery is the legal fiction that a person is property. Corporate personhood is the legal fiction that property is a person.** The inherent rights of all mankind endowed by our Creator are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. These *inalienable rights of man* are what our U.S. Constitution was written to protect ~ not to award them to businesses.

Like abolishing slavery, the work of abolishing corporate personhood evokes the deepest questions of what it means to be human. And if we are to live in a democracy, what does it mean to be sovereign? Thankfully, enshrined in our Constitution is the <u>sovereign right</u> of The People to overrule the court and <u>amend our Constitution</u>. It comes down to being clear about who's in charge, and then all of us exercising that right: **We, The People, Move to Amend!**

In the First National Bank of Boston vs. Bellotti case of 1977 – another 5-4 decision where the 1st Amendment was used to overturn state restrictions on corporate funding of political referenda – 4 Supreme Court Justices dissented: Justices White, Brennan, and Marshall stated:

"...the special status of corporations has placed them in a position to control vast amounts of economic power which may, if not regulated, dominate not only our economy but the very heart of our democracy, the electoral process... The State need not allow its own creation to consume it."

But, instead of heeding this warning, in 2010 the Robert's Supreme Court passed *Citizen's United*. As a result:

- Corporations are flooding money into political campaigns to put their puppets into Congress.
- Their money is corrupting our Congress and Supreme Court.
- To expand their reach, they are filing lawsuits against the states to overturn laws the people have voted for.

THIS MUST BE STOPPED.



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