RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE RHODE ISLAND CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT HOUSE RESOLUTION 54 OF THE 2023-2024 CONGRESS TO AMEND THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TO PROVE THAT THE RIGHTS PROTECTED AND EXTENDED BY THE CONSTITUTION ARE THE RIGHTS OF NATURAL PERSONS ONLY

Introduced By: Representatives Sanchez, Morales, Henries, Cruz, and Potter

Date Introduced: February 28, 2024

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

WHEREAS, The principle of government by and for the people is fundamental to American values, and the rights of self-governance outlined in the United States Constitution and Declaration of Independence are essential to securing life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, Fair elections are vital to democracy; and

WHEREAS, Individuals have basic needs including clean air and water, and food security; and

WHEREAS, Corporations are legal entities created on paper which now possess powers that can overshadow human rights and community interests; and

WHEREAS, The extension of constitutional rights to corporations undermines democratic principles; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens United V. Federal Election Commission decision distorts the electoral process by giving corporations personhood and undue influence through unlimited spending; and

WHEREAS, Equating money with speech gives unfair advantage to those with wealth; and

WHEREAS, Corporate-owned mass media influences political discourse and civic engagement; and
WHEREAS, Corporations exploit constitutional clauses to override local laws and
undermine community decision-making; and

WHEREAS, The Move to Amend campaign seeks to abolish corporate personhood and
money as speech through a constitutional amendment; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
respectfully requests that the Rhode Island delegation to the United States Congress support
House Resolution 54 of the 2023-2024 Congress to amend the United States Constitution to
provide that the rights protected and extended by the Constitution are the rights of natural persons
only; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the members of the Rhode Island Congressional
Delegation.

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