

2024 -- S 2890

=====
LC005785
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

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: Senators Acosta, Gu, Zurier, Kallman, Ujifusa, Cano, DiPalma, and Britto

Date Introduced: March 22, 2024

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

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

5 WHEREAS, Fair elections are vital to democracy; and

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

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

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

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

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

17 WHEREAS, Corporate-owned mass media influences political discourse and civic
18 engagement; and

1 WHEREAS, Corporations exploit constitutional clauses to override local laws and
2 undermines community decision-making; and

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

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

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

=====
LC005785
=====