A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging Congress to pass an amendment to the United States Constitution to overturn the holding in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission.

WHEREAS, The protections afforded by the first amendment to the United States Constitution to the people of our nation are fundamental to our democracy; and

WHEREAS, The founders of the republic and the signers of the United States Constitution clearly and emphatically intended for freedom of speech to mean freedom to communicate with and by natural persons either directly or through the free press; and

WHEREAS, Such freedoms were never intended by the founders to apply to corporations, which have special advantages not enjoyed by natural persons, such as limited liability, perpetual life and favorable treatment of the accumulation and distribution of assets, that allow them to spend prodigious sums on campaign messages that have little or no correlation with the beliefs held by natural persons; and

WHEREAS, Free and fair elections are essential to democracy and effective self-governance; and

WHEREAS, The United States Supreme Court ruled on January 21, 2010, in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, that corporations have the same first amendment rights as naturally born persons, and that corporations can spend unlimited amounts of money on elections; and

WHEREAS, There is an unequal playing field that allows corporations to spend without limit to influence elections, candidate selection and policy decisions and to sway votes; and

WHEREAS, Corporations own most of America's mass media and use that media to loudly express such corporations' political agendas through partisan rhetoric which seeks to mislead the citizens of this country instead of informing them of the issues, which in turn forces those citizens to discern the truth behind headlines and election campaigning; and

WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution empowers and obligates the people and states of the United States of America to use the constitutional amendment process to correct those egregiously wrong
decisions of the United States Supreme Court that go to the heart of our
democracy and republican form of self-government; and

WHEREAS, The United States Supreme Court is misguided in
principle and wrong on the law, because in a democracy the people rule:

Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of
Representatives concurring therein: That Congress is hereby urged to
immediately transmit to the several states for ratification an amendment
to the United States Constitution that would effectively overturn the
holding in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, thereby
returning our democracy, our elections and our communities to the
people, and thus reclaiming our sovereign right to self-governance; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send an
enrolled copy of this resolution to each member of the Kansas
Congressional Delegation.