

# LANGLADE COUNTY



RESOLUTION #17-2018

INTRODUCED BY: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

INTENT: SUPPORTING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ALLOW LIMITS ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND CONDUCTING A NON-BINDING STATEWIDE REFERENDUM

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

WHEREAS, the appearance of buying access to candidates or influencing policy, governance, and judicial decisions because of large outsider donations erodes voter confidence in our elections and democracy; and

WHEREAS, the County of Langlade has an interest in protecting itself and its citizens against intrusions on local control by mitigating the influence of money and privileged access in state and federal government and elections; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions in *Citizens United* and related cases allow unlimited spending by certain groups known as Super-PACs to influence local, state, and federal elections; and

WHEREAS, the above mentioned Supreme Court cases:


- have granted Corporations, Unions, non-profits, and other man-made entities (such as Super-PACs) the same Constitutional protections given only to individual human beings by the Framers of the Constitution, and;
- have declared money to be 'free speech'

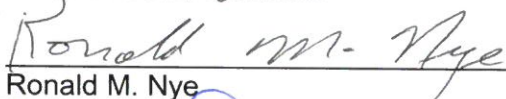
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Langlade County Board of Supervisors calls upon our elected State Assembly Representative and State Senator and on the Wisconsin State Legislature to hold a non-binding state-wide Referendum asking the voters if they wish the State of Wisconsin to support an Amendment to the United States Constitution stating:

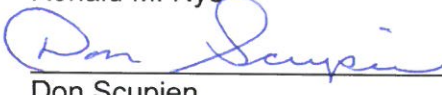
1. Only human beings are endowed with individual constitutional rights –not corporations, unions, non-profits or artificial entities (such as SuperPACs)
2. Money is not speech, and therefore limiting political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That following the Langlade County resolution, the County Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to our state and federal representatives, to advance this effort.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David J. Solin, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald M. Nye


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Scupien

\_\_\_\_\_  
William Livingston

  
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Ben Pierce

FISCAL NOTE: No fiscal impact at this time.

ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF LANGLADE COUNTY THIS 19<sup>th</sup> DAY OF June, 2018.

  
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Judy Nagel, Langlade County Clerk

nr