

Please support HJM 4, which calls for a constitutional convention with the intention of amending the United States Constitution to clarify that corporations are not people and money is not speech.

Corporations are not mentioned anywhere in the Constitution because the people who created that document distrusted corporations. (The American Revolution struck against the East Indies Corporation--it was EIC tea that was dumped in Boston Harbor--as much as it did against the British monarchy.) Furthermore, corporations of that time generally operated under laws and charters that limited their purposes and duration; they were controlled by each individual state. Present corporate law has been created judicially rather than legislatively, and only in this manner, which has some questionable underpinnings, have corporations gained 'personhood' and laid claim to constitutional rights. Those rights were originally intended to benefit actual people, not legal entities or useful fictions like corporations.

This usurpation of human constitutional rights has created many legal, political, economic and environmental hardships for average American citizens. Claiming constitutional rights, large corporations have undermined laws and local governments intended to protect and benefit those citizens. Citizens United is but one egregious example of this process and result. Citizens of this country must regain control of corporate charters in order to make corporations the useful economic tool for the public good that they once were, and to stop the abuses of unchecked power and the overweening accumulation of wealth in fewer hands.

HJM 4 is one important step in that effort. Please support it.

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