

**HELP get the corrupting influence of corporate
money OUT of politics**

PassMassAmendment!

The ballot initiative to amend
the Massachusetts Constitution based on
“Corporations Are NOT People, Money Is NOT Speech!”

This packet includes:

* INSTRUCTIONS * FAQs * PETITION FORMS

This packet is intended to be a “do-it-yourself” petition guide for someone who wants to gather signatures from friends/colleagues/neighbors. If you want to gather signatures in public, please visit PassMassAmendment.org for more instructions and tools.

We need 90,000 signatures by 11/20 - a few hours of work each and we DO IT!

Report your counts ASAP to:

PassMassAmendment.org, PassMassAmendment@gmail.com, 978 808 7173

Need more forms? Click "GET PETITION FORMS" at PassMassAmendment.org

Note: forms MUST BE printed 2-sided, exactly as original



INSTRUCTIONS

1. find the sheet for the town YOU are registered to vote in (begin a new sheet if necessary)

2. sign your name; print your last name to the right of your sig

3. print your street & number (& apt # if any)

DO NOT make ANY other marks on the sheet

DO NOT strike out or write over any mistakes
If you make a mistake, use another line to fill in the correct info

MARRIED FEMALES:

sign your own name - eg, Mary Smith (NOT Mrs. John Smith)

PHYSICALLY DISABLED only:

may authorize another person to sign for you - in your presence

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
AN INITIATIVE PETITION
FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Under Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth

SUMMARY

This proposed amendment to the state constitution would declare that corporations are not people and may be regulated. It would declare that the rights afforded to human residents under the state constitution are not applicable to corporations, limited liability companies, or any other corporate entities. It would declare that the state Legislature has the power to regulate the rights of corporations, limited liability companies, or other corporate entities to do business in the state, in order to promote the common good and strengthen the social compact of the Commonwealth.

The proposed amendment would also declare that money is not free speech and could be regulated to protect the political process and the functioning of government to serve the best interests of the citizens of the Commonwealth. The Legislature would have the power to regulate the raising and spending of money and in-kind equivalents for any primary or election of a public official and for ballot measures. This would include regulation of any advertising for or against any candidate in a primary or election for public office and any ballot measure.

The proposed amendment declares that it could not be applied to restrict the freedom of the press.

FILING DEADLINES. Initiative petitions must be submitted to local election officials for certification of signatures no later than **5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20, 2013**. Local election officials must complete their certification no later than **December 2, 2013**. Therefore, initiative petitions containing certified signatures must be reviewed by petitioners from the local election officials and then filed with the Elections Division, Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, One Ashburton Place, Room 1705, Boston, MA, no later than **5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 4, 2013**.

REGISTRAR USE ONLY:

ONLY REGISTRAR MAY WRITE IN THIS AREA

SPONSORS OF THIS PETITION MAY BE CONTACTED AT:

Petition O
 132 Wilson Road
 Nahant, MA 01908
 781-715-7822

INSTRUCTIONS TO CIRCULATORS AND SIGNERS

- DO NOT ALTER THIS INITIATIVE PETITION IN ANY WAY. ADDITIONAL MARKINGS ON THIS PETITION WILL DISQUALIFY ANY SIGNATURES ON THIS PETITION SHEET.
- For your signature to be valid, you must be a registered voter in the city or town named below and your signature should be written substantially as registered. DO NOT sign the same petition more than once.
- If you are prevented by physical disability from writing, you may authorize some person to write your name and residence in your presence.

REGIS- TRAR USE ONLY	I. SIGNATURE to be made in person with name substantially as registered (except in case of physical disability as stated above)	II. NOW REGISTERED AT (street, number and apartment number, if any) (city or town will be the same as stated below)	WARD	PREC.
1	Mary Smith SMITH	900 MASS AVE APT 903		
2				
3				
4				
5				

ONLY REGISTERED VOTERS OF CAMBRIDGE MAY SIGN THIS SHEET.

1 (OVER)

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

- ***Why are you doing this?*** There are many reasons, but mainly to get the corrupting influence of large corporations and big money out of the political process. See a long list of reasons at PassMassAmendment.org
- ***Is this about Citizens United?*** The Citizens United case is "Federal". What we are doing applies to Massachusetts. But we are concerned about large amounts of money from outside our borders influencing our local elections.
- ***Given Citizens United, won't the Supreme Court shoot down what you're doing?*** We can amend the Massachusetts Constitution and the Supreme Court would not get involved until a law was passed, someone sued, and it could then go to the Supreme Court. It would be the early 2020s before anything to do with our Amendment would make it to SCOTUS. By then, SCOTUS, would not consist of the same Justices.
- ***Will businesses still be able to hold contracts and own property?*** The only rights that a corporation has in Massachusetts are granted by the Legislature through the Massachusetts General Laws and their charter. We consider our Amendment to be a clarification, which changes no law. In the survey of 2,000 voters across the country, conducted by "Free Speech for People", and a similar survey of over 500 small businesses, it was determined that the vast majority of people from all parties believe that corporations have too much influence over our government. We believe that the framers of the Massachusetts Constitution did not intend for human rights to be afforded to corporate entities. A team of legal scholars, corporate and constitutional lawyers have developed language to clarify the Massachusetts Constitution in the form of an amendment.
- ***What about Unions?*** The largest perceived problem with Unions is their spending of money to influence elections. Limiting Union money in elections is covered by Section 2 of our language, which includes all people and "entities".
- ***Is this Move to Amend?*** No. Move to Amend [MTA] is working on a Federal amendment. There are many different groups out there working on Federal Amendments. We feel that we are jumpstarting the process, which will benefit all. Many people within Move to Amend are committed to helping our effort; we've gotten endorsements from Cape Cod MTA and North Shore MTA.
- ***Why bother if we don't know for sure if the "government" will let this happen?*** This is a DIRECT ACTION. It's like protesting, except we are guaranteed a Supreme Judicial Court hearing as to whether corporations have constitutional rights or not in Massachusetts and whether money is considered speech. When we gather the required signatures (68,911 certified) if we were to lose in the SJC, remember this, every signature over the 68,911 required, adds volume to the voice of the people, putting pressure on our Representatives in the Statehouse to act.
- ***Where can people find petitions?*** At the website there is a button for the current locations
- ***Can people download a petition form to help petition, sign themselves, and/or get a few of their friends to sign?*** Absolutely! To print or pickup petitions, see link [GET PETITION FORMS](#)
- ***What should we do with completed petitions?*** For now, keep your completed sheets. We will give you instructions when it's time to turn them in [to the appropriate town/city clerk].
- ***How to help:***
 - Sign up for our email list - Action Alerts will follow
 - Contact your Legislators - Ask them to endorse PassMassAmendment
 - This is a true Grassroots effort - Volunteer your time
 - This is being run on a bare bones budget. No one gets paid - But we need money for printing and office supplies