

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
SANTA FE COUNTY  
RESOLUTION NO. 2019 - 17**

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**A RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO CLARIFY THAT THE RIGHTS  
PROTECTED UNDER THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION ARE THE RIGHTS  
OF HUMAN BEINGS AND NOT THE RIGHTS OF ARTIFICIAL ENTITIES, AND  
THAT GOVERNMENTS MAY AND SHALL REGULATE CAMPAIGN  
CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE FROM  
CORRUPTION AND UNDUE OR DISPROPORTIONATE INFLUENCE IN  
ELECTIONS AND GOVERNMENT; ASKING THAT CONGRESS PROPOSE A  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE SUCH CLARIFICATION**

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**WHEREAS**, neither the Constitution of the United States nor any of its several amendments make any reference to corporations or other artificial, government-created entities, and the rights set forth therein were originally conceived as inalienable rights belonging inherently to human beings only; and

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court of the United States in a number of cases has held that the right of free speech recognized in the Constitution also belongs to corporations and other artificial entities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court of the United States has also held that certain types of regulation of campaign finance impermissibly abridge the right of free speech of human beings, corporations and artificial entities, thereby limiting the right of the People to regulate them through Federal, State, or local law; and

**WHEREAS**, such Supreme Court decisions and lower court decisions predicated upon them allow human beings, corporations, and other artificial entities to spend virtually unlimited amounts of money in support of or against candidates and ballot measures, undercutting the rights of citizens to prevent corruption and enjoy equal and meaningful participation in the democratic process; and

**WHEREAS**, this undermines public confidence in the democratic process and democratic institutions of our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, under Article V of the Constitution of the United States, the Congress, whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to said Constitution;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the County of Santa Fe, State of New Mexico, hereby requests that Congress propose an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that confirms that:

- (1) The rights protected by the Constitution of the United States are rights belonging to human beings only;
- (2) Any entity, including any organization or association of one or more persons, established or allowed by the laws of any State, the United States, or any Foreign State shall have no rights under said Constitution separate from the rights of its individual human members, and is subject to regulation by the people, through Federal, State, or local law;
- (3) Federal, State, and local government shall regulate, limit, or prohibit contributions and expenditures, including a candidate's own contributions and expenditures, to ensure that all citizens have access to the political process, and that no person or entity gains, as a result of their access to or ownership of money, substantially more access or ability to influence in any way the election of any candidate for public office or any ballot measure;
- (4) Federal, State, and local government shall require that such contributions and expenditures be publicly disclosed; and
- (5) Such regulation and disclosure requirements enacted and performed in accordance with the intents and purposes of such an amendment shall not be construed as violative of said Constitution.

**NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Clerk is directed to prepare copies of this resolution and transmit them to New Mexico's Senators and Representatives in Congress and to the State Senators and Representatives in the New Mexico Legislature representing districts wholly or partially within the boundaries of Santa Fe County.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 29th DAY OF JANUARY, 2019**

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

Anna T. Hamilton  
Anna T. Hamilton, Chair



ATTESTATION:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Geraldine Salazar  
Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk

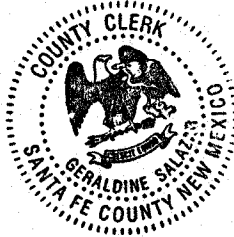
R. Bruce Fredrick  
R. Bruce Fredrick, County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE )  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 30TH Day Of January, 2019 at 12:06:42 PM and Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1877911 of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Estrella Martinez Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office  
Geraldine Salazar  
Deputy County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM



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SFC CLERK RECORDED 01/30/2019