



## RESOLUTION 12-16

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT RULING IN *CITIZENS UNITED V. FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION* CONCERNING CORPORATE CAMPAIGN SPENDING AND REQUESTING CONGRESS TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.**

**WHEREAS**, on January 21, 2010, the United States supreme court, by a five to four decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, overturned several important provisions of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002, as well as earlier supreme court decisions, and swept away a century of tradition barring corporate spending in elections in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States supreme court's ruling holds that corporations are people with free speech rights under the United States constitution and may engage in unlimited corporate spending in elections; and

**WHEREAS**, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* unleashes a torrent of corporate money into the political process unmatched by any campaign expenditure totals in United States history; and

**WHEREAS**, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* purports to invalidate state laws and even state constitutional provisions separating corporate money from elections; and

**WHEREAS**, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* presents a serious and direct threat to republican democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, the decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* grants excessive power to corporate interests and threatens to overwhelm the voices of individual citizens in the political process; 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 democracy and republican self-government; and

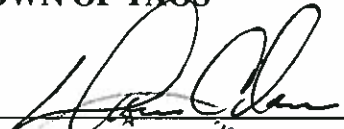
**WHEREAS**, the people and states of the United States of America have strengthened the nation and preserved liberty and equality for all by using the amendment process throughout history, including in seven of the ten decades of the twentieth century, and through the amendment process have reversed seven erroneous supreme court decisions;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF TAOS NEW MEXICO** that it express strong opposition to the United States supreme court's decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* and call upon the United States congress to propose and send to the states for ratification an amendment to the United States constitution to restore democracy to our republic; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the members of the New Mexico congressional delegation.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED**, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012, at the Regular Meeting of the Town Council by the following vote:

Mayor Pro Tem Michael A. Silva	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Rudy C. Abeyta	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember A. Eugene Sanchez	<u>yes</u>
Councilmember Amy J. Quintana	<u>yes</u>

**TOWN OF TAOS**

  
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**Darren M. Cordova, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**Renee Lucero, Town Clerk**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Contract Town Attorney**