

Amendment No. 508

Senate Amendment to Senate Joint Resolution No. 4 (BDR R-777)

Proposed by: Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

Amends: Summary: Yes Title: Yes Preamble: Amend Joint Sponsorship: No
Digest: No

ASSEMBLY ACTION				Initial and Date	SENATE ACTION				Initial and Date
Adopted	☐	Lost	☐	_____	Adopted	☐	Lost	☐	_____
Concurred In	☐	Not	☐	_____	Concurred In	☐	Not	☐	_____
Receded	☐	Not	☐	_____	Receded	☐	Not	☐	_____

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) variations of green bold underlining is language proposed to be added in this amendment; (3) ~~red-strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~purple double-strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) orange double underlining is deleted language in the original bill proposed to be retained in this amendment.

BJE



Date: 4/22/2017

S.J.R. No. 4—Urges Congress to propose an amendment to the United States Constitution to allow the regulation of independent political expenditures by corporations. (BDR R-777)



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4—SENATOR CANNIZZARO

PREFILED FEBRUARY 13, 2017

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Urges Congress to propose an amendment to the United States Constitution to allow the reasonable regulation of ~~independent~~ political contributions and expenditures by corporations ~~and~~ unions and individuals to protect the integrity of elections and the equal right of all Americans to effective representation. (BDR R-777)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging Congress to propose an amendment to the United States Constitution to allow the governments of the United States and the individual states to regulate and ~~restrict~~ limit ~~independent~~ political contributions and expenditures ~~by corporations~~ to protect the integrity of elections and the equal right of all Americans to effective representation.

1 WHEREAS, The growing influence of large independent political expenditures
2 ~~by corporations~~ is a great and growing concern to the people of the United States
3 and the State of Nevada; and

4 WHEREAS, In a democracy, the assurance of a fair and uncorrupted election
5 process is of the utmost importance, and the Nevada Legislature believes that it is a
6 legitimate and vital role of government to regulate ~~independent~~ political
7 expenditures ~~by corporations~~ in an even-handed manner; and

8 WHEREAS, In fulfillment of this important role, the government of the United
9 States and a majority of states have regulated and ~~restricted~~ limited independent
10 and other political contributions and expenditures ~~by corporations~~; and

11 WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States in *Citizens United v.*
12 *Federal Election Commission*, 558 U.S. 310 (2010), held that the First Amendment
13 to the United States Constitution prohibits Congress and the states from ~~banning~~
14 limiting or restricting independent political expenditures by corporations ~~and~~ and
15 unions; and

16 WHEREAS, *Citizens United* overturned a long-standing precedent of
17 ~~restricting~~ allowing regulation of independent political expenditures ~~by~~
18 ~~corporations~~; and

19 WHEREAS, *Citizens United* has served as a precedent for further legal decisions
20 which have harmed our democratic system of government, including *American*
21 *Tradition Partnership v. Bullock*, ~~132 S.Ct. 2490~~ 567 U.S. 516 (2012), which

1 struck down a long-standing Montana campaign finance law, denying a state the
2 right to regulate independent political expenditures by corporations in state
3 elections ~~+~~ and *McCutcheon v. Federal Election Commission*, 134 S.Ct. 1434
4 (2014), which struck down aggregate individual contribution limits; and

5 WHEREAS, The people of Nevada and all other states should have the power to
6 limit by law the influence of money in their political systems; and

7 WHEREAS, In the wake of *Citizens United*, there has been an exponential
8 increase in large ~~(independent)~~ political contributions and expenditures ~~by~~
9 ~~corporations;~~ which threatens the integrity of the election process, corrupts our
10 candidates, dilutes the power of individual voters and distorts the public discourse;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY,
13 That the members of the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby urge the
14 Congress of the United States to propose an amendment to the United States
15 Constitution to allow the governments of the United States and the individual states
16 to regulate ~~(and restrict independent)~~ political contributions and expenditures ~~;~~ ~~by~~
17 ~~corporations;~~ and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this
19 resolution to the Vice President of the United States as presiding officer of the
20 United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and each
21 member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.