



North Carolina Voters for Clean Elections

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## Greenville Passes Resolution Calling on Congress to Overturn *Citizens United* Becomes 10<sup>th</sup> municipality in N.C. seeking reversal of Supreme Court decision

GREENVILLE — The Greenville City Council became the 10<sup>th</sup> city in North Carolina to approve a resolution calling on Congress to overturn the Supreme Court’s decision, *Citizens United v. FEC*, and ensure the voices of ordinary voters are not drowned out by special-interest money.

The council voted 5-1 in favor of the resolution opposing *Citizens United*, which allowed corporations to spend unlimited funds on political advertising. Councilors Calvin Mercer, Dennis Mitchell and Rose Glover voted for the resolution with its co-sponsors Marion Blackburn and Kandie Smith; councilor Max Joyner opposed the motion.

“We are delighted that Greenville becomes the first city in Eastern North Carolina to adopt the resolution and one of the largest in the state to call for major reform,” said Jake Gellar-Goad, the lead organizer with the nonpartisan group Democracy North Carolina, which spearheaded the campaign to pass the resolution. The other 9 cities are Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Highlands, Bryson City, Franklin, Sylva and Asheville.”

“It’s a good day for democracy when elected leaders work together to reduce the influence of big money in politics, but there is still more work to be done,” says Melissa Price Kromm, Director of North Carolina Voters for Clean Elections. “New data\* on political TV and radio ads show that 43% of the \$56.5 million that has flooded into NC for the presidential race has come from outside sources not tied to candidates or parties. Corporations and trade unions are not people and they should not be able to buy political influence through unlimited advertising or purchase control over public policies. With media so important in elections these days, their deep pockets give them way too much power over election outcomes compared to actual citizens. This is not democracy.”

### 2012 Outside Spending v. Candidate Spending in North Carolina

	<b>Obama</b>		<b>Romney</b>		
	MoveOn	\$38,532	Am Crossroads	\$5,475,912	
	ACLU	17,028	Crossroads	5,465,354	
			Restore	4,886,169	
			AFP	4,722,727	
			RNC	3,100,258	
			Am Future Fund	601,818	
<b>Outside Spending</b>	<b>Obama</b>	<b>\$55,560</b>	<b>Romney</b>	<b>\$24,252,238</b>	<b>\$24,307,798</b>
<i>Candidate’s Spending</i>	<i>Obama Camp.</i>	<i>\$21,890,681</i>	<i>Romney Camp.</i>	<i>\$10,292,261</i>	<i>\$32,182,942</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$56,490,740</b>

\* Data from: [http://firstread.nbcnews.com/news/2012/09/10/13785741-ads-a-state-by-state-breakdown-of-whos-spending-where?utm\\_source=dlvr.it&utm\\_medium=twitter](http://firstread.nbcnews.com/news/2012/09/10/13785741-ads-a-state-by-state-breakdown-of-whos-spending-where?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)