

HOUSE No. 85

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul W. Mark

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying proposal for constitutional amendment:

Proposal for a Legislative Amendment to the Constitution to Declare that Corporations are Not People, Money is Not Speech.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel R. Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Paul R. Feeney</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>
<i>Cindy F. Friedman</i>	<i>Fourth Middlesex</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Richard M. Haggerty</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Adam G. Hinds</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>

<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>
<i>Smitty Pignatelli</i>	<i>4th Berkshire</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Angelo M. Scaccia</i>	<i>14th Suffolk</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>

HOUSE No. 85

By Mr. Mark of Peru, a petition (accompanied by proposal for constitutional amendment, House, No. 85) of Paul W. Mark and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution to declare rights afforded to the human inhabitants of the Commonwealth are not applicable to corporations, limited liability companies or any other corporate entities. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

Proposal for a Legislative Amendment to the Constitution to Declare that Corporations are Not People, Money is Not Speech.

A majority of all the members elected to the Senate and House of Representatives, in joint session, hereby declares it to be expedient to alter the Constitution by the adoption of the following Article of Amendment, to the end that it may become a part of the Constitution [if similarly agreed to in a joint session of the next General Court and approved by the people at the state election next following]:

ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

1 Corporations are not people and may be regulated. The rights afforded to the human
2 inhabitants of the commonwealth, under this constitution, are not applicable to corporations,
3 limited liability companies or any other corporate entity. Any references to persons, citizens,
4 inhabitants, subjects, men, people, individuals or like terms in this constitution, are not to be
5 construed in any way to be referring to a corporation, limited liability company or any other
6 corporate entities.

7 Corporations, limited liability companies and any other corporate entity shall do
8 business in this state under the regulation of laws passed by the general court which shall set the

9 rights of such entities to do business to promote the common good and strengthen the social
10 compact of this commonwealth.

11 Money is not free speech and may be regulated. To protect our political process
12 and the functioning of government to serve in the best interests of the citizens of the
13 commonwealth, money shall not be considered free speech. The general court shall have the
14 power to regulate the raising and spending of money and in-kind equivalents for any primary or
15 election of a public official and for ballot measures. This shall include regulation of any
16 advertising for or against any candidate in a primary or election for public office and any ballot
17 measure.

18 Nothing contained in this amendment shall be construed to restrain the liberty of
19 the press.