

**2010 -- H 8186**

=====  
LC02745  
=====

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010**

---

**J O I N T   R E S O L U T I O N**

**APPLYING TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE V  
OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TO CALL A CONSTITUTIONAL  
CONVENTION**

Introduced By: Representatives Segal, Fierro, Ajello, Lima, and Handy

Date Introduced: May 27, 2010

Referred To: House Judiciary

1           WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States has recently reinterpreted the Free  
2 Speech Clause of the First Amendment to grant corporations an unlimited right to spend  
3 corporate funds on independent political advertisement; and

4           WHEREAS, Such a change will only increase the already pathological dependence that  
5 members of Congress have upon private funds to secure their election to Congress and the  
6 election of their party; and

7           WHEREAS, This dependence has already weakened American democracy; and

8           WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution gives state legislatures the  
9 power, if two-thirds agree, to call for a convention to propose amendments to the United States  
10 Constitution; now, therefore be it

11           RESOLVED, That this General Assembly hereby respectfully directs Congress to direct  
12 such a convention to consider amendments to reverse the Supreme Court's decision, and remedy  
13 the dependence that currently debilitates American democracy; and be it further

14           RESOLVED, That this General Assembly further respectfully directs Congress to direct  
15 such a convention to only consider amendments explicitly referenced by at least forty percent of  
16 the states calling for a convention, thereby limiting the potential scope of such a convention; and  
17 be it further

18           RESOLVED, That this General Assembly hereby expressly rejects any amendment  
19 proposed by such a convention that is not explicitly referenced by at least forty percent of the

1 states calling for a convention; and be it further

2           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
3 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker  
4 of the United States House of Representatives, the presiding officer of each house of each state  
5 legislature of the United States, and to each member of this state's Congressional delegation.

=====  
LC02745  
=====