Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

ARTICLE XVIII of the constitution of the state of Colorado is amended to read:

Section 1. Purposes and findings. The people of the state of Colorado hereby find and declare that large campaign contributions to political candidates create the potential for corruption and the appearance of corruption; that large campaign contributions made to influence election outcomes allow wealthy individuals, corporations, and special interest groups to exercise a disproportionate level of influence over the political process; that the rising costs of campaigning for political office prevent qualified citizens from running for political office; that because of the use of early voting in Colorado timely notice of independent expenditures is essential for informing the electorate; that in recent years the advent of significant spending on electioneering communications, as defined herein, has frustrated the purpose of existing campaign finance requirements; that independent research has demonstrated that the vast majority of televised electioneering communications goes beyond issue discussion to express electoral advocacy; THAT THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, THE BILL OF RIGHTS, AND THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION ARE INTENDED TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF REAL PEOPLE; that political contributions from corporate treasuries are not an indication of popular support for the corporation's political ideas and can unfairly influence the outcome of Colorado elections; THAT MONEY IS PROPERTY, IT IS NOT SPEECH; and that the interests of the public are ~~best served by limiting campaign contributions,~~ WELL SERVED BY encouraging voluntary campaign spending limits, BUT BEST SERVED WITH MANDATORY CAMPAIGN SPENDING LIMITS; BY LIMITING CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS; BY providing for full and timely disclosure of campaign contributions, independent expenditures, and funding of electioneering communications, ~~and~~ BY strong enforcement of campaign finance requirements~~.~~, AND BY AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION THAT ALLOWS FOR MANDATORY LIMITS ON CAMPAIGN SPENDING AT THE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LEVEL WHILE ESTABLISHING THAT CORPORATIONS HAVE ONLY THE PRIVILEGES BESTOWED UPON THEM BY THEIR CHARTERS; BY STATE AND FEDERAL STATUTES; AND BY THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE REAL PEOPLE WHO ARE THEIR SHAREHOLDERS OR MEMBERS.

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Colorado Revised Statute section 1-45-102 is amended to read:

1-45-102. Legislative declaration. The people of the state of Colorado hereby find and declare that large campaign contributions to political candidates allow wealthy contributors and special interest groups to exercise a disproportionate level of influence over the political process; that large campaign contributions create the potential for corruption and the appearance of corruption; that the rising costs of campaigning for political office prevent qualified citizens from running for political office; THAT THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, THE BILL OF RIGHTS, AND THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION ARE INTENDED TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF REAL PEOPLE; THAT POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM CORPORATE TREASURIES ARE NOT AN INDICATION OF POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE CORPORATION'S POLITICAL IDEAS AND CAN UNFAIRLY INFLUENCE THE OUTCOME OF COLORADO ELECTIONS; THAT MONEY IS PROPERTY, IT IS NOT SPEECH; and that the interests of the public are best-served-by-limiting-campaign-contributions, WELL SERVED BY encouraging voluntary campaign spending limits, BUT BEST SERVED WITH MANDATORY CAMPAIGN SPENDING LIMITS AND BY LIMITING CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS; BY PROVIDING FOR full and timely disclosure of campaign contributions, and BY strong enforcement of campaign laws, AND BY AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION THAT ALLOWS FOR MANDATORY LIMITS ON CAMPAIGN SPENDING AT THE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LEVEL WHILE ESTABLISHING THAT CORPORATIONS HAVE ONLY THE PRIVILEGES BESTOWED UPON THEM BY THEIR CHARTERS; BY STATE AND FEDERAL STATUTES; AND BY THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE REAL PEOPLE WHO ARE THEIR SHAREHOLDERS OR MEMBERS.

Colorado Revised Statute section 1-45-103.7 is amended to read:

(9) (a) THE VOTERS INSTRUCT THE COLORADO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO PROPOSE AND SUPPORT ANY JOINT RESOLUTION OFFERING AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION THAT ACCOMPLISHES THE FOLLOWING:

(I) OVERTURNS ALL PORTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT'S RULINGS IN BUCKLEY V. VALEO (1976), AND CITIZENS UNITED V. FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION (2010) THAT CONFLICT WITH THE OBJECTIVES IDENTIFIED IN SUBSECTIONS (9)(a)(II), (9)(a)(III) AND (9)(a)(IV) BELOW.

(II) ESTABLISHES THAT CORPORATIONS ARE NOT PEOPLE WITH CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS;

(III) ESTABLISHES THAT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS OR EXPENDITURES BY CORPORATIONS, WHETHER TO CANDIDATES OR BALLOT ISSUES, OR IN SUPPORT OF OR OPPOSITION TO CANDIDATES OR BALLOT ISSUES, MAY BE PROHIBITED BY A POLITICAL BODY AT ANY LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT.

(IV) AUTHORIZES ANY LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT TO ENACT MANDATORY CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION AND SPENDING LIMITS THAT ENSURE THAT ALL CITIZENS, REGARDLESS OF WEALTH, CAN EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS TO ONE ANOTHER AND THEIR GOVERNMENT ON A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD.

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(b) THE VOTERS INSTRUCT THE COLORADO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO WORK DILIGENTLY TO BRING SUCH A JOINT RESOLUTION TO A VOTE AND PASSAGE, AND TO USE ALL PROCEDURAL METHODS AVAILABLE TO SECURE A VOTE AND PASSAGE.

(c) THE VOTERS INSTRUCT EACH STATE LEGISLATOR, IF GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY, TO RATIFY ANY AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES AND FINDINGS EXPRESSED IN THIS SUBSECTION (9).

(d) IF ANY PROVISION OF THIS SUBSECTION (9) OR THE APPLICATION THEREOF TO ANY PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCES IS HELD INVALID, SUCH INVALIDITY SHALL NOT AFFECT OTHER PROVISIONS OR APPLICATIONS OF THE SUBSECTION WHICH CAN BE GIVEN EFFECT WITHOUT THE INVALID PROVISION OR APPLICATION, AND TO THIS END THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE ARE DECLARED TO BE SEVERABLE.

(e) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 2013, AND BE APPLICABLE THEREAFTER.

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