

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. [BILL NUMBER]

Political expenditures.

Sponsored by: Joint Corporations, Elections & Political
Subdivisions Interim Committee

A JOINT RESOLUTION

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting Congress to propose a
2 constitutional amendment allowing political expenditures as
3 specified.

4

5 WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court has ruled that
6 Congress and the states lack authority to ban independent
7 corporate expenditures to political campaigns for public
8 office, relying on the concept that the spending of money to
9 elect a candidate is protected speech; and

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11 WHEREAS, this United States Supreme Court precedent has
12 allowed the creation of super political action committees in

1 campaigns for public office, which have made possible dark
2 money campaign expenditures in unprecedented amounts; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Wyoming has grave
5 concerns that corporations have abilities not enjoyed by
6 natural persons including perpetual life and enhanced
7 accumulation of assets, which may enable corporations to
8 financially overwhelm individual natural persons in the
9 political process; and

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11 WHEREAS, Congress, state legislatures and local legislative
12 bodies should have the authority to require the
13 identification of the natural person sources of campaign
14 expenditures and to limit expenditures by entities that are
15 not natural persons; and

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17 WHEREAS, a constitutional amendment would control over United
18 States Supreme Court precedent interpreting the United States
19 Constitution.

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21 *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE*
22 *LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:*

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1 **Section 1.** That the Legislature of the State of Wyoming
2 respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to
3 propose and send to the states for ratification an amendment
4 to the United States Constitution to allow the public
5 identification of the source of political contributions or
6 expenditures for or against any candidate and to limit or
7 prohibit corporations and other entities that are not natural
8 persons from making campaign contributions for or against any
9 candidate. Political expenditures by organizations that are
10 comprised of natural persons and that publicly identify their
11 members and donors should not be restricted.

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13 **Section 2.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming
14 transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the
15 United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker
16 of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress
17 and to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

(END)