

CARROLL COUNTY INDEPENDENT & Pioneer • Est. 1859

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Editorials, while unsigned, represent a consensus of the views of the editorial board of the Granite State News and Carroll County Independent.

An open letter to Sen. Jeb Bradley

To the Editor:

On April 9 the voters of Conway, Carroll County's largest town, by a nearly 200-vote margin, 705-520, approved a non-binding resolution calling for the N.H. Legislature to adopt a similar resolution calling for a federal Constitutional amendment declaring that the Constitution applies to "natural persons" only.

This resolution, brought to the warrant by a citizen petition, is a direct response to the issues of "corporate personhood" and "money as free speech" that has threat-

ened to wrench our very democracy from "we the people."

Last month, the N.H. House of Representatives voted by a bipartisan margin of 189-139 to adopt a similar resolution known as HCR 2. The Senate in its partisan wisdom had acted this term to adopt rules that forbade the considerations of any resolutions. With these indefensible rules in place the Senate recently acted to reject the consideration of three House resolutions that required Senate action, including HCR 2. Clearly the

will of the people has been thwarted and denied.

On April 22 a poll was released indicating that more than two-thirds of New Hampshire adults support a constitutional amendment to limit campaign contributions and spending. The poll, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center on behalf of People For the American Way, Public Citizen, Free Speech For People, and the New Hampshire Coalition for Open Democracy, found that 69 percent of the state feels that such an amend-

ment should be in place – including majorities of Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.

Sen. Bradley, the citizens of New Hampshire deserve better. This is no time for a partisan gambit. However, it is an important time for an up or down vote by the Senate to declare where they stand on one of the most important issues of our time.

Your leadership can make the difference. Do the right thing.

*Richard Pollock
North Conway*