

Proposed Resolution No. 6

Submitted by: Bob Losi, Legislative and Political Director

Campaign Finance Reform

WHEREAS, in 2010 the Supreme Court ruled in its infamous Citizens United decision that corporations have the same freedom of speech protections as natural persons, and therefore are entitled to express their opinions using unlimited dollars and cents; and

WHEREAS, Citizens United and subsequent decisions have resulted in an unprecedented amount of political spending by corporations and wealthy individuals, thereby corrupting the political process and rendering the option of contributing to free speech beyond the scope of the average citizen; and

WHEREAS, the gap between contributions of those involved in the labor movement and those looking out for the interests of big business is a staggering 15 to 1, which naturally resulted in legislation and political activity that suppressed the work of labor unions and undermined the goals of the labor movement, all the while furthering the protections of the ultra-rich at the cost of the American worker; and

WHEREAS, labor organizations are forced to disclose their contributions publicly, while corporations are able to disguise and easily shroud their unlimited contributions;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NPMHU supports the disclosure of all corporate campaign contributions, lobbying expenditures, and payments made to trade associations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NPMHU encourages the Supreme Court to reconsider its decisions in Citizens United and related cases; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NPMHU should continue to advocate for campaign finance reform on a state and national level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NPMHU urges Congress to propose and pass legislation that strikes down the reckless practices of corporations, and controls the system of political contributions, so that once again the electoral process is accessible to and operates in the interest of working families.