

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE GERAN TARR

HJR 11

*“Supporting action to overturn the decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 558 U.S. 310 (2010); and urging the United States Congress to pass legislation overturning the decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, thereby restoring free and fair elections in the United States.”*

Sponsor Statement

HJR 11 urges the United States Congress to overturn the decision of the United States Court in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, which removed the restrictions on the amounts of independent political spending.

The *Citizens United* Supreme Court decision essentially hinges on the notion that money is speech, corporations are people, and being allowed to give large amounts of undisclosed money to politicians in exchange for access and influence does not constitute corruption.

Former President Jimmy Carter recently said that unlimited money in politics, “violates the essence of what made America a great country in its political system. Now, it’s just an oligarchy, with unlimited political bribery being the essence of getting the nominations for President or to elect the President. And the same thing applies to Governors and U.S. Senators and Congress members. So now we’ve just seen a complete subversion of our political system as a payoff to major contributors, who want and expect and sometimes get favors for themselves after the election’s over.”

America’s campaign finance system must be reformed. This is an issue that concerns all Americans- regardless of party affiliation. We, as Alaskans, are stronger together and if we wish to preserve democracy and a government that represents all the people and not a handful of powerful billionaires with wealthy special interests, I ask that you support HJR 11.