



January 31, 2018

**Via First-Class Mail**

Senator Sherrod Brown  
713 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Rob Portman  
448 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge  
2344 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senate President Larry Obhof  
Statehouse  
1 Capitol Square, 2nd Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

Speaker of the House Cliff Rosenberger  
77 S. High St, 14th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Government Officials:

In November 2013, the citizens of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio voted in support of a Citizens' Initiative which enacted Chapter 183 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio and calls for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution declaring:

1. Only human beings, not corporations, are legal persons with Constitutional rights; and
2. Money is not equivalent to speech, and therefore, regulating political contributions and spending does not equate to limiting political speech.

Chapter 183 requires an annual hearing before the City Council. Accordingly, on January 25, 2018, the City Council of Cleveland Heights held a public hearing to examine the impact on its city, our state, and our nation of political influence by corporate entities and big money in connection with the most recent election. Corporate entities include business corporations, Political Action Committees, Super PACs, 501 c4 groups and unions. Members of the general

public in attendance were afforded the opportunity to speak on these matters for up to five (5) minutes per person.

The public hearing started at 7:07 p.m. and finished at 8:52 p.m. on January 25, 2018, in the City Hall Council Chambers at 40 Severance Circle, Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Twenty (20) members of the public spoke. Mayor Carol Roe, Vice Mayor Melissa Yasinow, Council Members Mary Dunbar, Cheryl Stephens, and Michael N. Ungar were in attendance. Minutes of the meeting will be available no later than March 1, 2018, on the Cleveland Heights' official website at <http://www.clevelandheights.com>.

Very truly yours,



Laurie Sabin  
Clerk of Council  
City of Cleveland Heights

cc: Tanisha R. Briley, City Manager  
L. James Juliano, Jr., Director of Law