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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3022

04/23/2012 Authored by Hilty, Mariani, Greiling, Hausman, Gauthier and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration

1.1 A joint resolution

1.2 applying to Congress to call a constitutional convention to propose an amendment
1.3 to the Constitution of the United States to clarify that the rights protected under the
1.4 United States Constitution are the rights of natural persons and not the rights of
1.5 artificial entities and to clarify that campaign contributions to influence elections are
1.6 not speech under the First Amendment.

1.7 WHEREAS, under Article V of the Constitution of the United States, the Congress, on
1.8 the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for
1.9 proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States that shall be valid to all intents
1.10 and purposes if ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by conventions
1.11 in three-fourths thereof, as one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by Congress;
1.12 NOW, THEREFORE,

1.13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it applies to the
1.14 Congress of the United States to call a constitutional convention for the purpose of proposing an
1.15 amendment to the Constitution of the United States, to read as follows:

1.16 "(1) The rights protected by the Constitution of the United States are the rights of natural
1.17 persons only.

1.18 (2) Artificial entities, such as corporations, limited liability companies, and other entities,
1.19 established by the laws of any State, the United States, or any foreign state shall have no rights
1.20 under this Constitution and are subject to regulation by the People, through Federal, State, or
1.21 local law.

1.22 (3) The privileges of artificial entities shall be determined by the People, through Federal,
1.23 State, or local law, and shall not be construed to be inherent or inalienable.

2.1 (4) Federal, State, and local government shall regulate, limit, or prohibit contributions and
2.2 expenditures, including a candidate's own contributions and expenditures, for the purpose of
2.3 influencing in any way the election of any candidate for public office or any ballot measure.

2.4 (5) Federal, State, and local government shall require that any permissible contributions
2.5 and expenditures be publicly disclosed.

2.6 (6) The judiciary shall not construe the spending of money to influence elections to be
2.7 speech under the 1st Amendment.

2.8 (7) Nothing contained in this amendment shall be construed to abridge the freedom of
2.9 the press."

2.10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of Minnesota is directed to
2.11 prepare copies of this resolution and transmit them to the Speaker and the Clerk of the United
2.12 States House of Representatives, the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the
2.13 United States Secretary of State, and Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.