

HJRES 48

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States providing that the rights extended by the Constitution are the rights of natural persons only.

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Introduced: Apr 28, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. (May 15, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-joint-resolution/48>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Nolan, Richard M. [D-MN-8]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (23 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jun 25, 2015
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Jul 23, 2015
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Jul 23, 2015
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Sep 18, 2015
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Oct 9, 2015
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Oct 22, 2015
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Oct 22, 2015
Rep. Capuano, Michael E. [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Oct 28, 2015
Rep. Jones, Walter B., Jr. [R-NC-3]	R · NC		Nov 5, 2015
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		May 12, 2016
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		May 12, 2016
Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]	D · CO		May 12, 2016
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Jun 8, 2016
Rep. O'Rourke, Beto [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Jun 9, 2016
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Jun 10, 2016
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Jul 6, 2016
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Sep 7, 2016
Rep. Gabbard, Tulsi [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Dec 13, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	May 15, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Apr 28, 2015)

Constitutional Amendment

Declares that: (1) the rights protected by the Constitution are the rights of natural persons only; (2) artificial entities (such as corporations, limited liability companies, and other entities established by the laws of any state, the United States, or any foreign state) shall have no rights under the Constitution and are subject to regulation by the people, through federal, state, or local law; and (3) the privileges of such artificial entities shall not be construed to be inherent or inalienable.

Directs federal, state, and local government to: (1) regulate, limit, or prohibit contributions and expenditures, including a candidate's own contributions and expenditures, to ensure that all citizens, regardless of their economic status, have access to the political process and that no person gains, as a result of that person's money, substantially more access or ability to influence the election of any candidate for public office or any ballot measure; and (2) require that any permissible contributions and expenditures be publicly disclosed. Prohibits the judiciary from construing the spending of money to influence elections to be speech under the First Amendment.

Actions Timeline

- **May 15, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **Apr 28, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 28, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.