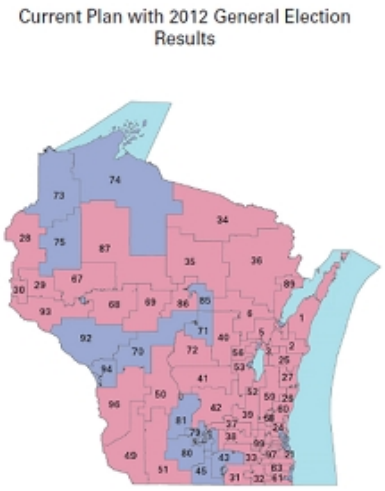


Green Bay Senator joins Madison Representative for press conference Jan. 22 at 10:00 a.m. in State Capitol to propose a statewide advisory referendum.

MADISON - On Tuesday, January 22, Rep. Lisa Subeck (D-Madison) and Sen. Dave Hansen (D-Green Bay) will be holding a press conference to unveil their resolutions that would give Wisconsinites a chance to weigh in on the role of big money in elections. The resolutions propose a statewide advisory referendum urging our elected officials to amend the U.S. Constitution to overturn *Citizens United v. FEC* and related Supreme Court rulings, and to declare that only flesh-and-blood human beings have constitutional rights.

The press conference will be at 10:00 a.m. in the Assembly Parlor of the State Capitol to mark the ninth anniversary of the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision, which said that corporations and other groups, including unions and now SuperPACs, can spend unlimited amounts of money to influence who gets elected.



"Corporations and billionaires shouldn't be able to buy our elections," Rep. Subeck said.



"It's time to let the voters be heard on this critical threat to our democracy," Sen. Hansen said.

These resolutions are backed by the Money Out, Voters In--Wisconsin coalition, which consists of Citizen Action of Wisconsin, Common Cause in Wisconsin, NAACP of Madison, Our

Wisconsin Revolution, the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, Wisconsin Farmers Union, WisPIRG, Wisconsin United to Amend, and Wisconsin Voices.

To date, a total of 144 communities in Wisconsin have passed local referendums or resolutions in favor of amending the U.S. Constitution to make clear that corporations aren't persons and money isn't speech. And 19 states have already called for such a constitutional amendment.

The Money Out, Voters In Coalition, recognizing that Martin Luther King Day and the anniversary of the *Citizens United* decision fell on the same day this year, underscored that campaign finance reform is a civil rights issue.

"Poor people and people of color are underrepresented in the donor ranks, and as a result, our elected officials are not as responsive to them," says Matt Rothschild, the executive director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign. "This has got to change."

As Dr. King himself said: "Property is intended to serve life, and no matter how much we surround it with rights and respect, it has no personal being. . . . It is not man."