



Town of Ashfield  
Office of the Town Clerk  
412 Main Street  
P.O. Box 560  
Ashfield, MA 01330  
(413) 628-4441 x5

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
MAY 4, 2019

At the Annual Town Meeting of the registered voters of the Town of Ashfield, held on May 4, 2019 and dissolved the same day, the following action was taken under this article:

**Article 28: Citizens' Petition – *Represent.Us* Legislative Reform**

That the Town vote to approve the non-binding resolution below:

**Resolution authored by Represent US Supporting State and Federal Legislation to Limit the Influence of Money in Politics and Promote Free and Fair Elections**

WHEREAS, the unregulated influence of money has degraded the fairness and efficacy of our elections at every governmental level; and

WHEREAS, free and fair elections are essential to the health of our democracy and demand our efforts to protect them; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to counter this threat to our democracy, a non-partisan grassroots movement known as "Represent.US" is working for legislative reforms through local chapters including Represent Western Mass

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the citizens of the Town of Ashfield, Massachusetts that we support legislation that will forestall the influence of money in our elections through measures such as limiting the access of lobbyists, mandating full transparency in campaign financing, adopting public campaign financing, instituting automatic voter registration, ending gerrymandering, and instituting ranked choice voting, to encourage civic participation and ensure fair representation in this most vital of our democratic institutions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the citizens of the Town of Ashfield implores our elected representatives in Boston, State Senator Adam Hinds and Rep. Natalie Blais and in Washington, Sen. Edward Markey and Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Rep. Richard Neal (or their successors) to lead this effort to enact these initiatives in Massachusetts and in the U.S. Congress.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Town of Ashfield is hereby directed to give notice to the above representatives by sending a certified copy of this resolution to each of them.

**Motion:**

Lynn Dole moved, and Cynthia Carney seconded that the Town vote to approve the non-binding resolution as written.

**Vote of the Town Meeting:**

The vote of the Town Meeting was unanimous in approving the article as written as declared by the Moderator.

May 4, 2019

A True Copy Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bridget S. Rodrigue".

Bridget S. Rodrigue  
Town Clerk

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