

Form Name:
Submission Time:

Citizens Commission
March 24, 2019 1:43 am

Name	David Rosenberg
Address	<div></div> <div></div>
Phone	<div></div>
Email	<div></div>
Citizenship Affirmation	I am a U.S. Citizen
Residency Affirmation	I am a resident of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Statement of Intent	I intend to comply with and advance the policy established by this Act.
Statement of Interest	<p>Our nation was founded on the principle that "We, the People," are to govern ourselves through our elected representatives. But the Supreme Court has extended to corporations constitutional rights meant only for individuals and ruled that money spent to influence elections is protected free speech. Because of these rulings our government today is controlled by, and hence serves, powerful special interests, including global corporations and the very wealthy, instead of all the people.</p> <p>I believe that a necessary step toward government of, by, and for the people is to amend the U.S. Constitution to affirm that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The rights protected by the Constitution of the United States are the rights of individual living human beings only, not aggregations of people or artificial entities of any kind (legal, robotic, artificially intelligent, or virtually real)• Money spent to influence elections is not protected free speech and may be regulated to ensure equal access to the political process for all Americans <p>Candidates have to devote time and energy to fundraising. Billionaire donors, special interests, and wealthy corporations have the ear of politicians. Ordinary citizens have disappointingly little voice in setting government policies.</p> <p>So, for the last four years, I have been working for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to affirm the principles in Question 2. I contributed to the wording that was used in Q 2 on the ballot & I organized a public presentation about Q 2.</p>

Résumé or Summary of Qualifications Upload	https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/3282862/71887710/488147065/71887710_david_rosenbergs_qualifications.docx
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Political Party Affiliation, if any, over the previous five years	Democratic
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City or Town where you reside	NORFOLK
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Employment Status	Unemployed
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I am a (now retired) computer professional. I have lived and worked in Massachusetts since 1972.

I attended Cornell University and NYU.

During my career I worked for commercial firms (both firms that made sophisticated use of computers and firms that designed and manufactured computers), educational institutions, and I had my own consulting firm.

My responsibilities have included application programming, systems programming, systems engineering, computer center management, managing software development groups, adapting software to meet the needs of large customers (e.g., MIT), acting as a liaison between the customer for whom I was working and the computer manufacturer, spending two weeks at CERN to understand their early installation of a supercomputer and bring that knowledge back to NYU, representing groups of computer users in negotiations with computer manufacturers, and working on national and international standards.

In retirement, I remain active in the Massachusetts computing community. For example, I am a member of a team of volunteer organizers who put on an annual conference.

During the time I worked at MIT, I was trained as a mediator, to mediate student disputes. That sparked my interest in mediation and negotiation and I have pursued those interests both while I worked at MIT and since retiring from MIT. I believe that my mediation and negotiation skills will be useful in my work on the Citizens Commission.

Over the years, I have become increasingly concerned that ordinary citizens have disappointingly little voice in setting government policies. The paper by Professors Martin Gilens and Benjamin I. Page titled "Testing Theories of American Politics: Elites, Interest Groups, and Average Citizens" (see https://scholar.princeton.edu/sites/default/files/mgilens/files/gilens_and_page_2014_testing_theories_of_american_politics.doc.pdf) demonstrates that (unfortunately) my concern is all too well founded. I feel an obligation to do my best to reclaim democracy for the American people. So, for the last four years, I have been working for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to affirm the principles in Question 2. I have attended many meetings on the subject (some of which I organized). I went to Washington to attend a conference on the subject. I contributed to the wording that was used in Question 2 on the ballot. I collected signatures to get Question 2 on the ballot. I organized a public presentation about Question 2 so that people would understand the issue and vote in favor of Question 2.

I am committed to working on this issue. Since retiring from MIT, I now have the time to devote to (and potentially travel on behalf of) the Citizens Commission.