

## **Bullying citizens**

May 12, 2015

Marco City Council votes 5-2 to curtail your 1st Amendment U.S. Constitutional rights. In a slick maneuver at a special session May 4, council majority once again proves failure to honor their oath of office to protect and preserve your individual rights under the Constitution.

Now you must petition your government at their pleasure.

They voted to "control" citizens from bringing forward resolutions. You are now required to get one percent formal petitions signed by "qualified" Marco Island voters. Yet councilors vote an average of 1.7 city sponsored resolutions every week and do not place this burden on themselves.

This is truly amazing, but even worse, a shocking exhibit of government bullying its citizens.

Clearly, this was aimed at two resolutions passed by the City Council in the past 14 months: Second Amendment Preservation and Common Core. Councilors conveniently forgot there was standing room only and the fire chief turned people away on the Second Amendment resolution. Regarding Common Core, citizens in support were forced to sit through 13 hours of meetings just to be able to voice their opinion. This Common Core/Home Rule Resolution was ultimately passed after it was too late to have any influence, but was passed by the Collier Board of County Commissioners.

Watch your elected officials restrict your rights.

To petition your Marco Island City Council, you now face the burden of both time and cost.

It may seem a minor thing, but it is endemic. In a recent article by Charles Murray, Cato Institute "The Constitution has been discarded and cannot be restored." If this is true, it is because we vote people into power who believe we work for them and they must control us.

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