
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CALL FOR A
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION TO PROPOSE A CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT TO ADDRESS CONCERNS RAISED BY THE UNITED STATES
SUPREME COURT DECISION IN *CITIZENS UNITED V. FEDERAL
ELECTION COMMISSION*.

1 WHEREAS, the first president of the United States, George
2 Washington, stated, "[t]he basis of our political systems is the
3 right of the people to make and to alter their Constitutions of
4 Government"; and

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6 WHEREAS, it was the intention of the framers of the
7 Constitution of the United States, as stated in James Madison's
8 Federalist Papers, that the Congress of the United States should
9 be "dependent on the people alone"; and

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11 WHEREAS, that dependency has evolved from a dependency on
12 the people alone to a dependency on those who spend excessively
13 in elections, through political campaigns or third-party groups;
14 and

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16 WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens*
17 *United v. Federal Election Commission*, 558 U.S. 310 (2010)
18 removed restrictions on amounts of independent political
19 spending; and

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21 WHEREAS, the removal of those restrictions has resulted in
22 the unjust influence of powerful economic forces, which have
23 supplanted the will of the people by undermining the people's
24 ability to choose their political leadership, write their own
25 laws, and determine the fate of their state; and

26
27 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution
28 requires the United States Congress to call a constitutional



1 convention upon application of two-thirds of the legislatures of
2 the several states for the purpose of proposing amendments to
3 the United States Constitution; now, therefore
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
6 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
7 Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that pursuant to Article
8 V of the United States Constitution, the United States Congress
9 is requested to call a convention for the purpose of proposing
10 amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America
11 to address concerns raised by the United States Supreme Court
12 decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 558
13 U.S. 310 (2010) and related cases and events; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this be a continuing
16 application considered together with applications calling for a
17 convention passed in the 2013-2014 Vermont legislature as
18 Resolution No. 454, the 2013-2014 California legislature as
19 Assembly Joint Resolution No. 1, the 2013-2014 Illinois
20 legislature as Senate Joint Resolution No. 42, and all other
21 past, pending, and future applications until at least two-thirds
22 of the several states have applied for a convention and the
23 convention is convened by Congress; and
24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application is for a
26 limited constitutional convention and does not grant Congress
27 the authority to call a constitutional convention for any
28 purpose other than the sole purpose set forth in this Concurrent
29 Resolution; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the delegates to the
32 constitutional convention comprise individuals currently elected
33 to state and local office or individuals elected as delegates
34 from each congressional district; provided that all individuals
35 elected or appointed to federal office, now or in the past, be
36 prohibited from serving as delegates to the convention, and for
37 the convention to retain the ability to restrict or expand the
38 power of its delegates within the limits expressed above; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
41 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President and Vice
42 President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States



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1 President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States
 2 House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United
 3 States House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the
 4 United States Senate, and members of Hawaii's congressional
 5 delegation.

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H.C.R. NO. 53

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FEB 26 2015

