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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CONVENE A  
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION TO PROPOSE A CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENT TO OVERTURN THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT'S  
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 (Constitution), as stated by  
8 James Madison in the Federalist Papers, that the Congress of the  
9 United States (Congress) should be "dependent on the people  
10 alone"; and

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

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

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21           WHEREAS, the removal of those restrictions resulted in the  
22 unjust influence of powerful economic forces, which has  
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

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27           WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution requires Congress to  
28 convene a constitutional convention upon application of two-



1 thirds of the legislatures of the several states for the purpose  
2 of proposing amendments to the Constitution; now, therefore  
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4 BE IT RESOLVED pursuant to Article V of the Constitution,  
5 the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of  
6 the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the Senate  
7 concurring, requests Congress convene a constitutional  
8 convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the  
9 Constitution to overturn the Supreme Court's decision in  
10 *Citizens United* and related cases and events and to eliminate  
11 the corrupting influence of money with the reasonable regulation  
12 of the money spent to influence American elections; and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the constitutional convention  
15 shall consider: whether expenditures on candidate elections  
16 constitute "speech" that is protected by the First Amendment of  
17 the Constitution; whether independent expenditures on candidate  
18 elections "corrupt" the democratic process; and whether the  
19 regulation of expenditures on candidate elections advances the  
20 public's interest to prevent "corruption" and protect the  
21 democratic process; and  
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this continuing application  
24 shall be considered together with the 2013-2014 Vermont  
25 legislature's Resolution No. 454, the 2013-2014 California  
26 legislature's Assembly Joint Resolution No. 1, the 2013-2014  
27 Illinois legislature's Senate Joint Resolution No. 42, the 2014-  
28 2015 New Jersey State legislature's Senate Concurrent Resolution  
29 No. 132, and all other past, pending, and future applications  
30 for a constitutional convention until at least two-thirds of the  
31 several states have applied for and Congress has convened a  
32 constitutional convention; and  
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application for a  
35 constitutional convention is limited to the purposes set forth  
36 in this Concurrent Resolution; and this application does not  
37 grant Congress the authority to convene a constitutional  
38 convention for any other purpose; and  
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the delegates to the  
41 constitutional convention shall be comprised of individuals who  
42 are currently elected to state and local office or individuals  
43 who are elected as delegates from each congressional district;  
44 and provided that all individuals elected or appointed to



1 federal office, now or in the past, shall not serve as delegates  
2 to the convention; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature retains its  
5 authority to restrict or expand the power of its delegates  
6 within the limits expressed above; and the delegates shall have  
7 no discretion beyond that granted by the Legislature; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President and Vice  
11 President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States  
12 House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United  
13 States House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the  
14 United States Senate, and members of Hawaii's congressional  
15 delegation.

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