
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO INTRODUCE
LEGISLATION FOR AND TO SUPPORT AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V OF
THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT TWO-THIRDS OF THE
STATES TO DIRECTLY PROPOSE SPECIFIC CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENTS, IN SUBSTITUTION FOR THE STATES' CURRENT
AUTHORITY TO CALL FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BY THE
CONGRESS.

1 WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States
2 provides for two methods of amending the Constitution, one
3 initiated by congressional action and the other initiated by the
4 states; and

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6 WHEREAS, to date, all constitutional amendments have been
7 congressionally initiated through the process whereby two-thirds
8 of each house of Congress proposes the constitutional amendment;
9 and

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11 WHEREAS, the state-initiated process, whereby Congress
12 calls for a constitutional convention to consider amendments
13 upon the application of two-thirds of state legislatures, has
14 never been employed; and

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16 WHEREAS, the state-initiated constitutional convention is
17 potentially open-ended and therefore too cumbersome and
18 problematic in light of current and foreseeable circumstances;
19 and

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21 WHEREAS, permitting the direct submission of proposed
22 constitutional amendments by two-thirds of the states would be a
23 more effective process for state-initiated amendments; and

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25 WHEREAS, the existing constitutional requirement that
26 three-fourths of all states must ratify any proposed
27 constitutional amendment remains the ultimate safeguard against
28 poorly considered amendments, irrespective of source; and



