
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING CONGRESS TO CONVENE A LIMITED NATIONAL CONVENTION
UNDER ARTICLE V FOR THE EXCLUSIVE PURPOSE OF PROPOSING AN
AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION THAT WILL LIMIT
THE INFLUENCE OF MONEY IN OUR ELECTORAL PROCESS.

1 WHEREAS, the framers of the Constitution of the United
2 States of America intended that the Congress of the United
3 States of America should be "dependent on the people alone"
4 (James Madison, Federalist 52); and
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6 WHEREAS, many reasonable persons perceive that that
7 dependency has evolved from a dependency on the people alone to
8 a dependency on powerful monied interests, through campaigns or
9 third-party groups, and that a fundamental imbalance in our
10 representative democracy now exists; and
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12 WHEREAS, many Americans agree that elections in the United
13 States of America should be free from the disproportional
14 influence of powerful monied interests and fair enough that any
15 citizen can be elected into office; and
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17 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution
18 requires Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments
19 to the federal Constitution on the application of two-thirds of
20 the legislatures of the several states; and
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22 WHEREAS, Article I, Section 1 of the Constitution of the
23 State of Hawaii states that all political power "is inherent in
24 the people and the responsibility for the exercise thereof rests
25 with the people. All government is founded on this authority";
26 and
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28 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Legislature understands that a
29 limited Article V convention may be successful in restoring
30 balance and integrity to our elections by proposing an amendment



1 to the federal Constitution that will permanently protect free
2 and fair elections in America by addressing, inter alia, issues
3 raised by the decisions of the United States Supreme Court in
4 *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 130 S.Ct. 876
5 (2010), and related cases and events, and desires that said
6 convention should be so limited; and
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8 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii desires that the delegates to
9 said convention shall be comprised equally of individuals
10 currently elected to State and county office, or be selected by
11 election, in each Congressional district for the purpose of
12 serving as delegates, provided that all individuals elected or
13 appointed to federal office, now or in the past, be prohibited
14 from serving as delegates to the convention, as the State
15 intends to retain the ability to restrict or expand the power of
16 its delegates within the limits expressed herein; and
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18 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii intends that this be a
19 continuing application considered together with applications
20 calling for a convention passed in the 2013-2014 Vermont
21 Legislature as R-454; the 2013-2014 California Legislature as
22 Concurrent Resolution No.1, Chapter 77; the 98th Illinois
23 General Assembly as SJR 42; the 2014-2015 New Jersey Legislature
24 as SCR 132; the 2015-2016 Rhode Island Legislature as HR 7670
25 and SR 2589; and all other passed, pending, and future
26 applications until such time as two-thirds of the several states
27 have applied for a convention for a similar purpose and said
28 convention is convened by Congress; now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the
32 House of Representatives concurring, that this body hereby
33 requests the United States Congress to call a convention as soon
34 as two-thirds of the several states have applied for a
35 convention for a similar purpose for the exclusive purpose of
36 proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States
37 of America whose purpose will be to limit the influence of money
38 in our electoral process, by rendering moot the decision of the
39 United States Supreme Court in *Citizens United v. Federal*
40 *Elections Commission* and related cases; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application is for an
2 Article V convention and does not grant Congress the authority
3 to call a convention for any purpose other than for the sole
4 purpose set forth in this resolution, as soon as two-thirds of
5 the several states have applied for a convention for a similar
6 purpose; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
9 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
10 United States, Vice President of the United States in the Vice
11 President's capacity as presiding officer of the United States
12 Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
13 Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives,
14 President *Pro Tempore* of the United States Senate, members of
15 Hawaii's congressional delegation with the respectful request
16 that the full and complete text of this Concurrent Resolution be
17 printed in the Congressional Record, and the presiding officers
18 of each legislative body of each of the several states,
19 requesting the cooperation of the states in issuing an
20 application compelling Congress to call a convention for
21 proposing amendments pursuant to Article V of the U.S.
22 Constitution.

