
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CALL A CONVENTION FOR PROPOSING AMENDMENTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE V OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION LIMITED TO PROPOSING AMENDMENTS THAT IMPOSE FISCAL RESTRAINTS ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, LIMIT THE POWER AND JURISDICTION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND LIMIT THE TERMS OF OFFICE FOR ITS OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

1 WHEREAS, executive orders by the President of the United
2 States have become a vehicle through which the President may
3 overstep the limits of the President's constitutional authority;
4 and

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6 WHEREAS, the concentration of power at the federal level
7 has had the effect of making federal officials less responsive
8 to the will of the people and more readily influenced by
9 lobbyists, wealthy corporations, and special interests in
10 Washington, D.C.; and

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12 WHEREAS, much of federal law is now created by federal
13 bureaucrats who were never elected by the people and have no
14 accountability to the people whatsoever; and

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16 WHEREAS, policy decisions made at the state level tend to
17 be more responsive to the needs and desires of the people; and

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19 WHEREAS, the federal government has accumulated a crushing
20 national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and

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22 WHEREAS, Hawaii has historically used federal funds for
23 economic development that is subject to federal fiscal
24 restraints; and

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1 WHEREAS, the federal government has invaded the legitimate
2 roles of the states through the manipulative process of federal
3 mandates, many of which are unfunded to a great extent; and
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5 WHEREAS, the states have the ability to restore the
6 responsiveness of government to the people and to restrain
7 abuses of federal power by proposing amendments to the
8 Constitution of the United States through a limited convention
9 of the states under article V of the United States Constitution;
10 now, therefore,
11

12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
13 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
14 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that this body urges and
15 applies to Congress under the provisions of article V of the
16 United States Constitution to call for a convention of the
17 states, limited to proposing amendments to the United States
18 Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the federal
19 government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal
20 government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and
21 members of Congress; subject however to the following
22 reservations, understandings, and declarations:
23

24 (1) An application to the United States Congress to call
25 an amendment convention of the states pursuant to
26 article V of the United States Constitution confers no
27 power to Congress other than the power to call such a
28 convention, rather, the power of Congress to exercise
29 this ministerial duty consists solely of the authority
30 to name a reasonable time and place for the initial
31 meeting of a convention;
32

33 (2) Congress shall perform its ministerial duty of calling
34 an amendment convention of the states only upon the
35 receipt of applications for an amendment convention
36 for substantially the same purpose as this application
37 from two-thirds of the legislatures of the several
38 states;
39

40 (3) Congress shall not have the power or authority to
41 determine any rules for the governing of an amendment
42 convention of the states pursuant to article V of the



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1 United States Constitution; furthermore, Congress does
2 not have the power to set the number of delegates sent
3 by any state to such a convention, nor does it have
4 the power to name delegates to such a convention;
5 rather, the power to name delegates remains
6 exclusively within the authority of the legislatures
7 of the several states;
8

9 (4) By definition, an amendment convention of the states
10 means that states shall vote on the basis of one
11 state, one vote;
12

13 (5) A convention of the states convened pursuant to this
14 application shall be limited to consideration of the
15 topics specified herein and no other, which
16 application is made with the express understanding
17 that an amendment that in any way seeks to amend,
18 modify, or repeal any provision of the Bill of Rights
19 shall not be authorized for consideration at any
20 stage; furthermore, this application shall be void *ab*
21 *initio* if ever used at any stage to consider any
22 change to any provision of the Bill of Rights;
23

24 (6) Pursuant to article V of the United States
25 Constitution, Congress may determine whether proposed
26 amendments shall be ratified by the legislatures of
27 the several states or by special state ratification
28 conventions; the Legislature of the State of Hawaii
29 recommends that Congress select ratification by the
30 legislatures of the several states; and
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32 (7) The Legislature of the State of Hawaii may provide
33 further instructions to its delegates and may recall
34 its delegates at any time for a breach of duty or a
35 violation of the instructions provided; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application constitutes a
38 continuing application in accordance with article V of the
39 Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at
40 least two-thirds of the several states have made applications on
41 the same subject; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Majority Leader and
3 Secretary of the United States Senate, Speaker and Clerk of the
4 United States House of Representatives, members of Hawaii's
5 congressional delegation, and presiding officers of each of the
6 legislative houses in each of the other forty-nine states.

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OFFERED BY: _____



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