



UTAH EAGLE FORUM

..For God, Family, and Country!

Please vote NO on Senate Joint Resolution SJR 9 calling for a Convention to Amend the Constitution of the United States.

This resolution causes us grave concern because it is incredibly broad and vague, to the point that it would leave the Constitution open to drastic revision.

Convention of the States Project (COSP) Chief Counsel Robert Kelly said, “. . . our application is fairly broad . . .” “. . . it does open up Article I . . . It opens up Article II . . . It opens up Article III . . . It will access Article V . . .”

SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

- **Is the Constitution Divinely inspired, including Article V**

We believe the answer to that question is **yes**. We also believe that through inspiration we will know if and when it is the right time for an Article V Convention. In a previous committee hearing for SJR 9, some of the people speaking in favor of the convention said that they believed that Article V was divinely inspired. If they really believe that **why does COSP want to change Article V?** Robert Kelly stated, the reason for opening Article V for amendments was “. . . so that the states don't have to go through this **convoluted** process in the future so that if three quarters of the states agree in advance, they could propose amendments to the constitution.” This COSP proposal would eliminate congress from the process and change the intent of the founders who intentionally made the amendment process difficult.

- **What is their plan and how is it better than what is already in the Constitution?**

There is no answer to that question! You are being asked to vote for a resolution to call a convention to propose any number of amendments to the Constitution that fall into very broad categories, including limiting the power and jurisdiction of the federal government. The Constitution **ALREADY** limits the powers and jurisdiction of Congress, the Executive Branch and the Judiciary to very defined and limited roles. Rewriting Articles I, II and III will not make our elected officials follow the Constitution. COSP has suggested at least 20 amendments to the Constitution. How is putting that many amendments in the Constitution limiting the power of the federal government? How many more amendments will be presented from organizations and legislators both conservative and liberal. What will that do to the Constitution that our Founders gave us? Please remember that all 50 states with differing agendas will be there proposing amendments, such as, election laws, energy policy, education, healthcare, religious freedom, marriage equality, gender identity, Equal Rights Amendment, balanced budget, term limits etc. **How is that not rewriting the constitution?**

- **Will this call for a convention result in drastic changes to the Constitution?**

Michael Farris, the Founder of Convention of States said, "I would propose reconfiguring the Supreme Court after the model of the European Court of Human Rights. There are 46 nations in the court's jurisdiction, and every nation appoints one judge. **We should expand the Supreme Court to 50 justices** and have the states appoint the justices for a specific term (6 to 8 years) with no right of reappointment".

Who will decide where, when and who will attend and vote at the convention?

Article V says Congress shall call a convention, which means they will decide where and when the convention will be held and how many delegates from each state will attend and vote. The Congressional Research Service (CRS), who works exclusively for the United States Congress, providing policy and legal analysis, has said, "Congress has traditionally laid claim to broad responsibilities in connection with a convention... including formulae for allocation of votes among the states.

Why does The Convention of States Project think HJR 9 is necessary?

Mr. Kelly explained it, "We need scumbag politicians in the states checking scumbag politicians in Washington D.C. It's not perfect politicians checking bad politicians – it's bad politicians down here checking bad politicians up here." **We are fortunate to live in Utah where we don't have scumbag Legislators or Congressmen.**

Jordan Sillars, Communication Director for COS, said, "I think the majority of Americans are too lazy to elect honest politicians. But I think some men and women could be found who are morally and intellectually capable **of re-writing the Constitution.**"

In 2015 you passed HJR7, joining Utah to the call for a Balanced Budget Amendment (BBA) to the US Constitution. **There are now 28 states, including Utah, asking for a convention for this single issue.** They only need 6 more states. Why are you not waiting until after the Balanced Budget Amendment convention before calling for another convention? Many of you have said that the most important issue to you is the BBA.

Who will pay the millions of dollars necessary for a Convention?

No one talks about the cost of this very large and expensive convention that will probably last for weeks, maybe months. What is the fiscal note? They will need a very large convention center in a major city for weeks or months, along with hotel rooms, airline tickets, food, transportation etc.. The cost could be tens of millions of dollars, maybe more depending on how long it lasts. Who pays for this? Special interests? the political parties? the states or the federal government ie; the taxpayers?

Please do not vote for this unbelievably vague resolution which could forever change our inspired Constitution. Utaheagleforum.org