



January 31, 2022

The Honorable Ken Ivory
House of Representatives
Utah State Legislature

RE: HJR 9 -- Calling for a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

Dear Representative Ivory:

On behalf of the 2.35 million members nationally-- and 20,000 in Utah -- of the Association of Mature American Citizens ("AMAC" – www.amac.us), we strongly support enactment of HJR 9 and urge its passage by the Utah Legislature for the sake of the citizens of Utah and of all States. In our recent poll of AMAC members, 96 percent responded in favor of an Article V States initiated fiscal discipline Constitutional Amendment.

The enormity of the federal Congress' and Biden Administration's spending spree and tax proposals have no regard for neither the financial integrity of our Nation on a global scale and the strength of the dollar as leading international reserve currency, nor the adverse impact on the ability of businesses to create and sustain jobs and strengthen and grow our GDP. In short, the federal Congress continues to demonstrate to all States and American citizens its inability – and genuine lack of will -- to address its fiduciary and stewardship responsibilities.

Members of the Congress and the current U.S. Secretary of the Treasury often bemoan the national debt and growing interest on the debt as "unsustainable" – and then *do nothing* beyond occasional rhetoric. Rapidly rising inflation is especially hurting low- and middle-income Utah and all American families and the impending federal spending and taxing spree, if ever enacted, will accelerate and exacerbate inflation and the financial pain of families – and breed the recurrence of the devastation of stagflation we all had to endure in the late 1970's. Unless unchecked by the States through Article V, and drawing upon a well know idiom, the Congress and the Biden Administration are "killing the golden goose that lays the golden eggs" with their proposed spending and taxing sprees.

The Founders of our republic and signers of the Constitution recognized the threat of a runaway federal government and the eventual need for reigning it in when it takes actions that threaten the viability of our republican form of government in which the States are the last line of defense and check against federal irresponsibility. They with the other Founders approved the specific provision in Article V to ensure the sovereignty of the States:

"The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either case, shall be

valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by three fourths thereof,..."

So as you and your colleagues address HJR 9, we strongly urge the Utah Legislature to pass it and thereby undertake a great service to citizens of Utah and all States to move forward to save our Nation from the financial disaster that will inevitably result from unchecked federal spending and taxes. Indeed, we are at that perilous point in which the States are called upon to establish a fiscal integrity "constitutional box" that the Congress and the Executive Branch must honor for the sake of the American people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Carlstrom". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bob Carlstrom, President

AMAC Action