

Why a Convention of States to Amend the Constitution

Article V provides that 2/3 of states may call a Convention of States to propose amendments to the Constitution. At this time 14 states have voted their approval to call such a Convention, Utah being the most recent.

One of the most frequent issues that arises today is the subject of term limits for members of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Many members have been in their position for 20, 30, even 40 years! In this time they have amassed great personal and legislative power such that the will of the people is easily subverted by special interests and lobbyists of all types. The Founders themselves never intended this to occur. The present system has led to a degree of corruption unheard of before in our country and it gets worse each year.

It is clear Congress will never propose such an amendment themselves. Thus the people need to exercise the provision of Article V. There may be other areas proposed for amendment but this one is clearly the most urgent and egregious that needs addressed.

This Convention would only prepare and approve amendment(s) for the consideration of the states as a whole in which 3/4 must approve for any amendment to become law.

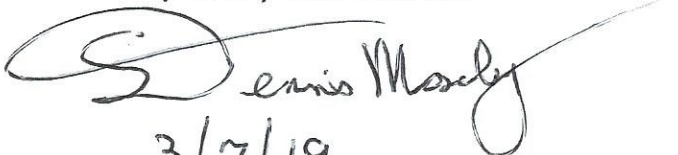
Concerns are voiced about a runaway Convention where any amendment would be proposed and possibly result in a complete revision of the Constitution. This is not likely as 2/3 of the states would need to approve any amendment to go forward and finally 3/4 of the states would have to approve any amendment so proposed.

There is no reason that Kansas should not be a state which approves this process. Indeed it is a state's duty to so amend when the Congress is deaf to the people's needs. Kansas has a long proud history of being in the forefront of constitutional government and for instance standing strong against slavery in the years before the Civil War. For Kansas to not even debate the issue or to vote NO would deny that heritage, but at least it needs to proceed to the floor and not be killed in Committee.

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