

MAR 0 8 2018

SENATE 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, that dependency has evolved from a dependency on
7 the people alone to a dependency on powerful special interests,
8 through campaigns or third-party groups, that has created a
9 fundamental imbalance in our representative democracy; and
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11 WHEREAS, Americans across the political spectrum agree that
12 elections in the United States of America should be free from
13 the disproportional influence of special interests and fair
14 enough that any citizen can be elected into office; and
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16 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution
17 requires Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments
18 to the federal Constitution on the application of two-thirds of
19 the legislatures of the several states; and
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21 WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Hawaii states
22 that all political power "is inherent in the people and the
23 responsibility for the exercise thereof rests with the people.
24 All government is founded on this authority" (Article I, Section
25 1); and
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27 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Legislature perceives the need
28 for an amendments convention in order to restore balance and
29 integrity to our elections by proposing an amendment to the
30 federal Constitution that will permanently protect free and fair
31 elections in America by addressing, inter alia, issues raised by



1 the decisions of the United States Supreme Court in *Citizens*
2 *United v. Federal Election Commission*, 130 S.Ct. 876 (2010) and
3 related cases and events, and desires that said convention
4 should be so limited; and
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6 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii desires that the delegates to
7 said convention shall be comprised equally of individuals
8 currently elected to State and local office, or be selected by
9 election, in each Congressional district for the purpose of
10 serving as delegates, provided that all individuals elected or
11 appointed to federal office, now or in the past, be prohibited
12 from serving as delegates to the convention, as the State
13 intends to retain the ability to restrict or expand the power of
14 its delegates within the limits expressed herein; and
15

16 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii intends that this be a
17 continuing application considered together with applications
18 calling for a convention passed in the 2013-2014 Vermont
19 Legislature as R-454, the 2013-2014 California Legislature as
20 Resolution Chapter 77, the 98th Illinois General Assembly as SJR
21 42, the 2014-2015 New Jersey Legislature as SCR 132, the 2015-
22 2016 Rhode Island Legislature as HR 7670 and SR 2589, and all
23 other passed, pending, and future applications until such time
24 as two-thirds of the several states have applied for a
25 convention for a similar purpose and said convention is convened
26 by Congress; now, therefore,
27

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
29 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018,
30 that this body hereby requests the United States Congress to
31 call a convention for the exclusive purpose of proposing an
32 amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America
33 that will limit the influence of money in our electoral process,
34 by overturning the decision of the United States Supreme Court
35 in *Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission* and related
36 cases, as soon as two-thirds of the several states have applied
37 for a convention for a similar purpose; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application is for an
40 Article V convention and does not grant Congress the authority
41 to call a convention for any purpose other than for the sole
42 purpose set forth in this resolution, as soon as two-thirds of



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1 the several states have applied for a convention for a similar
2 purpose; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
6 the Vice President of the United States in his capacity as
7 presiding officer of the United States Senate, the Speaker of
8 the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader
9 of the United States House of Representatives, the President *Pro*
10 *Tempore* of the United States Senate, to each Senator and
11 Representative from Hawaii in the Congress of the United States
12 with the respectful request that the full and complete text of
13 this Resolution be printed in the Congressional Record, and to
14 the presiding officers of each legislative body of each of the
15 several states, requesting the cooperation of the states in
16 issuing an application compelling Congress to call a convention
17 for proposing amendments pursuant to Article V of the U.S.
18 Constitution.
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OFFERED BY: _____

