



**State Representative Bill Patmon
Sponsor Testimony
HCR 37
December 6, 2016**

Hello Chairman Maag, Vice Chair Hambley, Ranking Member Bocchieri and members of the House State Government Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present Sponsor Testimony on HCR 37.

As many of you may know, I am deeply interested in Article V of the U.S. Constitution, which describes the process whereby states may call a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution. Article V is a tool that our forefathers gave us to use to hold Congress accountable. Just as we need to keep Congress accountable, Congress needs to hold the administration accountable. As my joint sponsor stated, HCR 37 is a non-binding resolution that will urge Congress to adopt the Regulation Freedom Amendment. Three times in American History Congress has proposed Amendments that states wanted without a convention. State pressure effectively helped force Congress to propose The Bill of Rights, the 17th Amendment for direct election of senators, and the 22nd Amendment for presidential term limits.

Again, thank you Chairman Maag and members of the House State Government Committee.