Government Oversight & Reform Committee 3/22/17  
Testimony of Kenneth Clark  
  
1.  Article V addresses a STRUCTURAL problem with our federal government.  
     Elections are the business of people and parties, this is not.  
     Congress deals with laws, this does not.  
     Article V restores the SYSTEM.  
     State sovereignty is our greatest check on federal power, even greater than

the three co-equal branches (executive, legislative, judicial).

2.  [Simulated Convention](http://conventionofstates.com/cossim)  
     Took place September 2016. All 50 states represented, 137 Delegates, total.

Ohio Attendees: House Reps Christina Hagan, Bill Patmon, Margy Conditt

     Process used: Leader chosen, Rules agreed upon. Committees formed.

Deliberations. Proposed Amendments. Each state got one vote.

     Outcome: Safe & effective at producing suggested amendments.

3.  SAFETY

     Delegate selection

     Faithful delegate guidelines

     Rules selected by Convention (not Congress)

     Limited in scope - 3 pillars

     Deliberative process - self police

     Congress' ability to derail anything outside named scope

     38 state threshold

     Scalia's view – It should not be easy (but easier) to amend the Constitution.

4.  DUTY

     Ohio legislators rightly recognized their obligation to explore Article V and federalism when they passed SJR5 in 2013, and in establishment of a first-ever Committee (in the House) on Federalism and Interstate Relations. Whether they anticipated playing a part in changing the course of history or not, when they ran for state office, it's their sworn duty to rise to the occasion now.

5.  WE HAVE YOUR BACK

Our detractors may be loud, but 30,000 quiet, hard-working, peace-loving citizens in Ohio want to be heard. Over 2 million (and growing) across the country. That's who we represent. The men and women emailing, calling and meeting with you are not activists. For most, it's their first venture speaking out, besides voting. What your constituents are proposing is…  
LEGAL – provided for in the US Constitution

CIVIL – peaceful transition of power

MORAL – holds us accountable to our children, and their children

6.  WHO DECIDES?  
 Our framers created the US Constitution after fighting an oppressive, overreaching government. They intended that we be self-governing, as illustrated throughout the U.S. Constitution. The aim of COS is to honor our unique heritage.