

Constitutional convention: H.J.R. 1

Chair: Wiggam

Ranking Member: Kelly

Thank you for accepting my testimony in opposition to the request for a Constitutional Convention as a remedy to any perceived deficiency in our current Constitution which was written and amended as needed over the past 250 years. The Constitution currently provides a remedy for any deficiency, a Constitutional amendment, ratified by 2/3 of the States in the Union.

The original drafters of the Constitution were intelligent and highly educated men who had risked their lives and fortune to create a new republic and craft a constitutional document with safeguards to provide for a representative form of government in stark contrast to autocratic governments and feudal systems.

Although our current Constitution provides for calling a Convention of States to rewrite the original document, there is no formula for selection of delegates, no constraints to include the current Bill of Rights, and no timetable for completion of such document.

The idea of having a balanced Federal budget should be presented as an amendment to our current Constitution. No need to scrap the blueprint of our country for a small addition to the foundation document of our republic.

Which of our current politicians would be up to the task selecting delegates to draft a new document that would protect the citizens of the United States? Whose interests and political views would be represented? Which prestigious learned men would be chosen? Perhaps the delegates would only represent the view of the currently powerful in support of an undemocratic system rather than representing the People of the United States. We have watched as our laws have been flaunted and circumvented by politicians. It has only been the judicial branch that has kept us from losing our republic.

This resolution is extremely dangerous. We cannot allow partisan politicians, by choosing the delegates, to rewrite our Constitution. Who today is equal to a Washington, Jefferson, Adams, Benjamin Franklin or Abraham Lincoln? Who today truly has the moral courage to protect our freedom?