Vote ”NO” on HJR2 (Article V Convention resolution)

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Dear Ohio House Government Oversight Committee members,

I am a resident of Texas representing myself and I am speaking against the Article V Convention application HJR2 (Application to the Congress of the United States for a Convention of the States under Article V of the Constitution of the United States that is limited to proposing amendments that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and members of Congress.) [1]. As an Article V convention to amend the US constitution (also called a “Convention of the States”, ConCon, etc.) shall impact the entire nation, this legislation is of national interest [1].

States cannot dictate “reservations, understandings and declarations” to congress or the ConCon [1] [2] [3]. Congress’s “ministerial duty” (pursuant Article V and Article I, Section 8 of the US constitution) is to handle all details associated with the ConCon such as “the power or authority to determine any rules for the governing of a” ConCon, how many “votes” each State gets, the agenda of the ConCon (an agenda item to propose “an amendment that in any way seeks to amend, modify, or repeal any provision of the Bill of Rights” is fair game), etc. [2] [3] [4] [1].

A ConCon once initiated will modify the US constitution as it sees fit regardless of any “reservations, understandings and declarations” put forth by the States [1]. ConCon delegates are sovereign representative of the people and “have the inherent right to alter or abolish our Form of Government, as expressed in the Declaration of Independence” [5] [6] [7] [8] [9].

Ohio can already challenge Federal overreach without resorting to a ConCon. For instance, the Ohio Legislature can “impose fiscal restraints on the federal government”, by refusing Federal monies earmarked for unconstitutional purposes [1]. To “further limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government”, the Ohio State Legislature should exercise its existing constitutional authority to nullify unconstitutional Federal laws [1] [2] [10]. The people of Ohio can already “limit the terms of office for members of Congress and other federal officials” via elections.

Vote no on HJR2. HJR2 will only expose the United States constitution to arbitrary revision. Furthermore, the Ohio legislature already can “protect the liberty of our people, particularly for the generations to come” and restrain Federal abuses of power rendering a ConCon unnecessary [1] [2] [10].

Thank you,

Edgard Muñoz-Coreas

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