

June 16, 2025

The Honorable Kristina D. Roegner, Chairman  
Senate General Government Committee  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

I am writing as a life long citizen of Cincinnati, Ohio, who became involved in politics at the age of 10 when my father, the Precinct Chair for the Republican Party in our polling district, first asked me to pass out the sample ballots at his polling district after school. I am a licensed secondary school teacher in Social Studies, Mathematics and Data Processing, but am now technically retired as I am over the age of 70.

I am writing in opposition to the S.J.R. No 3 with concerns about the opening of a Pandora's Box of a Constitutional Convention. It is my understanding that no matter what the stated intentions of a U.S. Constitutional Convention, that once convened it would be very easy to extend that convention's mandate and that is why I'm calling it a Pandora's Box, which it is best to not open. If there is an actual U.S. Constitutional amendment that is desired, then the normal process of amending the U.S. Constitution should be followed, not this open ended, unenforceable, restricted Constitutional

### **As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2025-2026**

**S. J. R. No. 3**

**Senators Reynolds, Lang  
Cosponsor: Senator Reineke**

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### **A JOINT RESOLUTION**

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.

Convention.

As far as the content of what this Resolution seeks to change, I see no need to change items such as the fiscal restraint or limiting power of the federal government since that it already contained in the Constitution. The problem is that the current U.S. Congress's leadership is choosing to not enforce those three (3) branches of government division of powers which is allowing the President to exercise powers way beyond the norms of our federal government. A S.J.R. that would make the most sense at this point in time would be to have the Ohio Legislature to tell our state's Congressional members to "do their job."

As far as term limits, in the 1990's when Ohio was considering passing term limits on its state legislative members, I publicly stated that the results would not be what those who thought term limits would change the Ohio Legislature to eliminate 'career politicians,' would instead only lead to members of the Ohio House seeking to get the seat in the Ohio Senate representing their district and the term-limited Senator would be seeking the seat of the term-limited Ohio House member. As you know, my prediction was precisely what happened. They say that the definition of insanity is to do the same thing over and over again while expecting different results. I would not expect term limits in the U.S. Congress be any different than what is happening in Ohio as well I would expect the power of lobbyist and money in politics to also increase thus lessening the ability of the elected officials to be able to govern.

Just like many countries, the Legislative and Executive branches in the United States continue to swing back and forth like a pendulum where the further it swings in one direction, the further it tends to swing back in the other direction. The citizens participation in the events of this past weekend, with the birthday military parade versus the no kings protests, show that this pendulum swing is well underway. If the Pandora's Box of a U.S. Constitutional Convention were opened, we could get the real fiscal responsibility that the U.S. needs, where those in the top 25% of the income and wealth pyramid and corporations would lose all of those deductions and be forced to pay their fair share of taxes, which would relieve the pressure on those of the rest of the population to lose benefits and pay more in taxes. Reducing inequality would be a decent outcome, but with the divisive nature of our current political environment, the more likely outcome would be the chaos and division that leads to economic uncertainty and maybe the second U.S. Civil War. In the past few years, I've traveled to countries all over the world and to all of the continents, except Antarctica, and so I've been to many of areas that are still trying to recover from their past political strife and see no reason for the U.S. to want to join those ranks.

Again, I'm urging you to not open this Pandora's Box of a U.S. Constitutional Convention and instead focus on making progress towards a more positive future with peace and prosperity for the United States of America.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gwen Marshall". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Gwen Marshall  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45223

copies:

Theresa Gavarone, Vice Chair  
Willis E. Blackshear, Jr., Ranking Member  
William P. DeMora, District 25  
Stephen Huffman, District 5  
Bill Reineke, District 26  
Jane M. Timken, District 29  
Michele Reynolds, District 3  
George R. Lang, District 4  
Catherine D. Ingram, District 9