Written Testimony in OPPOSITION to SJR4 (HJR1) COS

Honorable Senator Peterson, Chair; Sen. Cirino, Vice Chair; Sen. Craig, Ranking Member; and Members of the Senate General Government Budget Committee:

We are American citizens, born under the <u>Rule of Law</u>: the **United States Constitution**, which guarantees us certain unalienable [God-given] rights:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/declaration_transcript.html

And now, in the 50 states, we see **legislators** are being convinced **they** can **vote away** our <u>constitutional compact</u> with the *United States of America*!

How is it possible that our country, through its elected officials, has come to such a **gross misunderstanding** of the limits government was given over the rights of "We the People"?

<u>Please</u> listen to why on February 15, 2017, **Montana Representative Brad Tschida, a** COS sponsor, <u>testified against his own legislation after getting the</u> <u>facts:</u> <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmkbgmvRr41</u>

Where were we when <u>300 million people</u> **asked** for state legislators to **take away** their birthright protections afforded by the *U.S. Constitution*? Asking citizens *hasn't* happen, and it *isn't* happening now!

Promoters of an Article V constitutional convention have created an ever growing **mirage** of excuses to justify opening our *U.S. Constitution*, saying edits and amendments can be safely made! The historic facts could not be further from the truth, as seen in the voiding of the *Articles of Confederation*, in order to replace it with the *U.S. Constitution in 1787*!!

WHAT is the "elephant in the room" about opening our *U.S. Constitution*? WHO are these "delegates", who will **by federal law** hold *plenipotentiary* powers within a constitutional convention?

ANSWER: The Article V constitutional convention "delegates" will exercise *sovereign power*, which is **superior to the states and the federal government**, to proceed with their **own rules of law**! Once called by the *U.S. Congress*, the constitutional convention "delegate body" is **unencumbered by government**, thereby legally empowered to supersede all laws existing before its assembly.

QUESTION: WHO will be "given the keys" to opening the *U.S. Constitution*? WHO will decide the <u>persons</u>, **now unknown to us**, who will be given the *most extraordinary powers on earth* over the American people?

WHO are YOU giving **all your rights** away to? WHO do YOU **trust** with the power to **irreversibly** change the rest of your life and that of generations to come? What **price** will YOUR <u>freedom</u> pay to chase the promised return for giving up your cherished <u>constitutional compact</u> with the *United States of America...*?

We implore you to carefully consider your position. Our children's future to live in a free society and the greatest nation on earth is in your hands.

"Abide By The Constitution, Not Change It"

Respectfully,

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