

Good afternoon, Chairman Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Humphry, and member of the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today about House Joint Resolution 3.

As State Legislators I am sure you have felt the heavy hand of the Federal Government as it has repeatedly usurped the rights of the State. The Federal Government has most assuredly forgotten that it derives its power from the states, but only because the States have forgotten that it is their job to keep a check on the federal government. When the federal government steps outside their Constitutional box no letter writing campaign, no demonstration, not even an election is going to put them back into their place. Only the State Legislatures have the power to control them through Constitutional Amendments. Today Washington is like an unruly teenager with absentee parents. You are those parents. PLEASE SHOW UP.

I am standing here before you, asking you to be the great statesman and stateswoman that we need right now – that we needed years ago. I can not fix Washington. But you can. An Article V Convention of States is for you to enact. It is your responsibility. Indeed, it is your obligation. You find yourself here, on this committee, in this moment, in order to make history. Lay aside ego; lay aside personal ambitions; lay aside political affiliations. Be great for us.

Thank you very much.