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Milford, Ohio 45150-2303
House District 62/ Senate District 14

Chair Peterson, Vice-Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Humphries and Honorable Members of the Government Oversight Committee

Hjr3 is a proposed resolution that would allow the State of Ohio to participate in a Convention of States. The convention is authorized by Article V of the United States Constitution.

Article V of the U.S. Constitution provides two ways to amend our Nation's most important document of freedom.

1. By Congress*
2. By a Convention of the States*

To date Congress has used Article V to propose 33 amendments with 27 being adopted by at least 38 (three fourths) of the states. The importance of Article V cannot be overstated. Without it, the U.S. Constitution would not be relevant today. For Congress to convene a convention of states, 34 states (two thirds) must pass an identical resolution in both chambers of their legislature. Currently, 19 states have achieved convention membership.

What baffles me. . . is that with all the news today about our corrupt Federal Government, why haven't our Ohio Legislators approved the Convention of States Resolution? For your information, Ohio currently ranks fourth nationally in petition signers, only behind Texas, Florida and California. Ohio's current number of petition signers is 119,000 plus. That's more people than a full Ohio State home football game. Plus, our numbers keep growing.

In addition, the three topics of the convention are clearly defined. They are:

- 1.) **Imposing fiscal restraints on the federal spending.** In the Federal Government fiscal year from October 2022 to October 2023, our national debt increased by more than \$510 billion. Looking at that number another way, our Federal Government is spending 510 billion dollars more than it is collecting from Federal Income taxes.
- 2.) **Limit the power and jurisdiction of the Federal Government.** For example, the current Administration is defying the rule of law and a United States Supreme Court judgement by trading student education debt forgiveness for votes.
- 3.) **Set terms limits on members of Congress and on the more than 4,000 federal agency officials.**

So what are you waiting for? Get it in gear and endorse our resolution! With our high number of Ohio supporters, the Buckeye State needs to become a member of the Article V Convention.

*Two prior test convention of states have been held in Colonial Williamsburg Virginia. Each state was invited to send three legislators. Both political parties were represented. The agenda for both conventions was the three topics listed above. In both conventions, the results were the same, a resounding success!

We urge you to pass HJR3. Please stand up for all of the Ohioans who have signed our petition in support of Ohio becoming a member of the convention. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Kenneth A. & Judith E. Eppich
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