



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2015

LCO No. 8973



Offered by:

SEN. MCLACHLAN, 24th Dist.

SEN. WITKOS, 8th Dist.

To: House Joint Resolution No. 64

File No. 425

Cal. No. 638

**"RESOLUTION PETITIONING CONGRESS TO CONVENE AN
ARTICLE V CONVENTION TO OVERTURN THE UNITED STATES
SUPREME COURT'S DECISION IN CITIZENS UNITED V. FEDERAL
ELECTION COMMISSION."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "WHEREAS, with each passing year this nation becomes deeply in
4 debt as its expenditures grossly and repeatedly exceed available
5 revenues; and

6 WHEREAS, attempts to limit spending have resulted in strenuous
7 assertions that the responsibility for appropriations is the
8 constitutional duty of the Congress; and

9 WHEREAS, the annual federal budget repeatedly demonstrates the
10 unwillingness or inability of both the legislative and executive
11 branches of the federal government to curtail spending to conform to

12 available revenues; and

13 WHEREAS, the unified budget does not reflect actual spending
14 because of the exclusion of special outlays which are not in the budget;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, knowledgeable planning and fiscal prudence require
17 that the budget reflect all federal spending and that the budget be in
18 balance; and

19 WHEREAS, believing that fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level
20 is one of the greatest economic threats which faces our nation, we
21 firmly believe that constitutional restraint is necessary to bring the
22 fiscal discipline needed to reverse this trend; and

23 WHEREAS, the mounting debt level is putting our country not only
24 at economic security risk, but it is opening our country up to a national
25 security risk as our debt level restricts our capacity to act and shows
26 weakness to our enemies; and

27 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution requires the
28 United States Congress to call a convention, upon application of the
29 legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, for the purpose of
30 proposing amendments to the United States Constitution; and

31 WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut sees the need for a convention
32 to propose a balanced budget amendment to the United States
33 Constitution or for a substantially similar purpose and desires that
34 said convention should be so limited; and

35 WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut desires that the delegates to
36 said convention shall be comprised equally of individuals currently
37 elected to state and local office, or be selected by election, in each
38 Congressional district for the purpose of serving as delegates, though
39 all individuals elected or appointed to federal office, now or in the
40 past, be prohibited from serving as delegates to the convention and
41 intends to retain the ability to restrict or expand the power of its

42 delegates within the limits expressed above; and

43 WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut intends that this be a
44 continuing application considered together with all other similar
45 passed, pending and future applications, the aforementioned concerns
46 of Connecticut notwithstanding until such time as two-thirds of the
47 several states have applied for a convention and said convention is
48 convened by Congress.

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the people of the State
50 of Connecticut speaking through its legislature, and pursuant to
51 Article V of the United States Constitution, hereby petitions the United
52 States Congress to call a convention for the purpose of proposing
53 amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America as
54 soon as two-thirds of the several states have applied for a convention;
55 and

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the House of
57 Representatives and the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the
58 President of the United States; the Vice President of the United States
59 in his capacity as presiding officer of the United States Senate and
60 addressed to him at the office he maintains in the United States Capitol
61 Building; the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
62 the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the
63 President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, each Senator and
64 Representative from Connecticut in the Congress of the United States
65 with the respectful request that the full and complete text of this
66 resolution be printed in the Congressional Record; and the Governor
67 of each state and the presiding officers of each legislative body of each
68 of the several states, requesting the cooperation of the states in issuing
69 an application compelling Congress to call a convention for proposing
70 amendments pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution."