



Enact HF 3088 to Rescind Minnesota's Article V Con-Con Applications

Members of the Minnesota Legislature are attempting to pass legislation to rescind every live application to Congress calling for a federal [constitutional convention](#) (Con-Con).

House File No. 3088 ([HF 3088](#)) is sponsored by Representatives Tina Liebling (D-Rochester), Rick Hansen (D-South St. Paul), and Andrew Smith (D-Rochester). It declares, in part:

WHEREAS, in 1901, the legislature of the State of Minnesota adopted Senate File 94, a joint resolution applying to the Congress of the United States for an Article V constitutional convention on the topic of the popular vote election of United States Senators; and

WHEREAS, in 1909, the legislature of the State of Minnesota adopted Joint Resolution 17, applying to the Congress of the United States for an Article V constitutional convention on the topic of polygamy; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, the legislature of the State of Minnesota adopted Resolution 5, applying to the Congress of the United States for an Article V constitutional convention on the topic of apportionment....

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the State of Minnesota that the applications cited in this resolution are rescinded and have no legal effect.

Nevertheless, any [Article V convention](#), no matter how well intentioned, could lead to a [runaway convention](#) that would reverse many of the Constitution's limitations on government power and interference. In other words, **a Con-Con could accomplish the same goals that many of its advocates claim to be fighting against.** As evidence, both a [2016](#) and [2023 simulated "Convention of States"](#) resulted in amendments massively increasing

The John Birch Society

Author: [Peter Rykowski](#)

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the federal government and expanding its spending powers.

Additionally, in the last years of his life, the late Justice Antonin Scalia stood opposed to an Article V convention. Asked about it in a 2015 interview, he [remarked](#) that **“This is not a good century to write a constitution.”** Furthermore, **what kind of delegates would Minnesota send to such a convention? Constitutionalist conservatives or RINO moderates and liberals?**

On December 9, 2021, constitutionalist U.S. Representative [Thomas Massie](#) (R-Ky.), warning against a Con-Con, [tweeted](#):

Show me a single state where Constitutionals comprise a majority of the state legislature.

At this point in history, an Article V Convention of the States would be a disaster.

In 1979, then-U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona, correctly warned about an Article V convention:

If we hold a constitutional convention, every group in the country — majority, minority, middle-of-the-road, left, right, up, down — is going to get its two bits in and we are going to wind up with a constitution that will be so far different from the one we have lived under for 200 years that I doubt that the Republic could continue.

An [Article V convention](#) possesses the inherent power to propose **any** changes to the U.S. Constitution, including drafting and proposing an entirely new “modern” (i.e. socialist) constitution. **Instead, the Minnesota Legislature should consider [Article VI](#) and [nullify unconstitutional laws](#).**

Above all, **urge your state representative and senator to support HF 3088, rescind all Article V convention applications, and to [consider nullification](#) as a safe and constitutional means to limit government instead.**