



Stop Congress From Calling a Constitutional Convention: Oppose H.Con.Res. 15

A resolution to call an Article V Constitutional Convention, or [Con-Con](#), has been introduced in Congress. If enacted, this would decimate the Constitution and the God-given individual liberties that it protects. Deceptively, **the resolution [aggregates](#) old, rescinded, and unrelated state legislative applications to Congress for a convention.**

House Concurrent Resolution 15 ([H.Con.Res. 15](#)) is sponsored by Representative Jodey Arrington (R-Texas). If passed by the House and Senate, it would call “a Convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States for a date and place to be determined on calling the Convention.”

Importantly, H.Con.Res. 24 [deceptively](#) reaches the 34-state threshold for calling a convention by aggregating “Balanced Budget Amendment” (BBA) applications with unrelated — and in many cases, centuries-old — applications for a plenary convention. The resolution [declares](#):

Whereas congressional and State records of plenary applications for amendments on any subject and applications for the single subject of Inflation-fighting Fiscal Responsibility Amendments compiled by the Article V Library counts Nevada’s “continuing” application, reported February 8, 1979, in the Congressional Record, as the 34th thus achieving the “two thirds” congressional mandate to call the Convention for proposing amendments; congressional records reported 39 applications by the end of 1979, 40 in 1983, and 42 total applications over time.

Despite mentioning “Fiscal Responsibility Amendments” (FRA) in its preamble, **H.Con.Res. 15 [does not limit the scope of the convention](#) to only BBA or FRA Con-Con applications — [there is nothing stopping Congress from considering any other topic in the Constitutional Convention it would call under the resolution.](#)**

The John Birch Society

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Furthermore, several of aggregated applications have either been rescinded or have already seen their objectives met — they [should be ineligible](#) to be counted in any manner whatsoever.

The John Birch Society [has been warning](#) about this aggregation scheme. Delegates to any constitutional convention possess the inherent sovereign right of the people at large to propose any amendments or an entirely new constitution, as was the case in the original [Convention of 1787](#). In other words, any Constitutional Convention under Article V cannot be limited. In a 1982 interview with the *Los Angeles Times*, President Ronald Reagan [said](#), “Well, constitutional conventions are kind of prescribed as a last resort, because then once it’s open, they could take up any number of things.”

He was right. A Constitutional Convention, under Article V, could [reverse](#) the existing Constitution’s limitations on government power and interference. Furthermore, the aggregation scheme decimates any possible notions that the convention would be “limited” or confined to a single subject or amendments.

Additionally, **every so-called “balanced budget amendment” proposal [includes loopholes or escape clauses](#) that would [easily](#) allow Congress to continue to increase spending and/or raise taxes. In other words, these amendments would make an *unbalanced* budget constitutional!**

Commenting on a previously introduced version of the resolution, one Con-Con proponent [claimed](#) the resolution was “designed to restore federal fiscal sanity.” However, as shown above, this claim is false. Rather, **all Congress needs to do is to end its wasteful and unconstitutional spending; if it does this, federal spending would decrease by at least 80 percent, thus quickly eliminating our nation’s fiscal problems.**

Accordingly, Congress must reject H.Con.Res. 15 and every other dangerous Con-Con proposal. And instead, it must get serious about out-of-control spending by simply ending it. Please urge your U.S. representative and senators to do just that.

Rep. Hageman: Article V Con-Con is Dangerous!

Congressman Biggs on Why an Article V Convention of States or Con-Con Would Be Dangerous