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## CONVENTION *of* STATES ACTION MARYLAND

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March 3, 2021

Address: 3350 Catchpenny Place, Bryans Road, Maryland 20616

Rules and Executive Nominations Committee, Maryland House of Delegates

Dear Madam Chairman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Andrew Weaver. I am 22 years old and came to Maryland with Navy parents who were stationed at Indian Head Naval Base, Dahlgren, and the Navy Yard. I am a self-employed criminal justice student who has worked for small businesses for all of my employment history. Through this time, I have seen many small businesses struggling to meet the regulations that are placed upon them through the overreach of Federal lawmakers. These overreaches effect every area of business including hiring policies, healthcare mandates, and overly burdensome taxes to pay for programs around the World that do not benefit our State in the least.

Just one of these examples is the Affordable Care Act. Instead of allowing self-employed Marylanders to choose local health insurance agencies, we are forced to use the options provided by the Federal government regarding who we can hire, how many hours they can work, and the healthcare agency we have to buy coverage from. According to the Tenth Amendment, all of these powers belong to State legislators like yourself that can ensure that Marylanders can make financial decisions that support other Marylanders.

In addition to this blatant theft of power from the States, Congress has continued to exempt itself from abiding by the rules it creates for the rest of us. With the Affordable Care Act, the members of Congress have been granted thousands of dollars every year to ease the burden it places on them, while small businesses cannot afford to hire an extra employee full time due to the high cost of meeting Federal mandates.

For this reason, I have chosen to support the Convention of States Resolution HJ0006 and would humbly request that each of you do so as well. One goal of this Resolution is the restriction of the power of the federal government through an amendment to the Constitution protecting the power of state legislatures. Marylanders deserve for this to be debated on the floor and to be able to make the decision whether or not they want to end federal overreach in our state.

For this reason, I trust you will support HJ0006.

Respectfully,

Andrew Weaver

Volunteer with Convention of States