

Written Testimony in SUPPORT of- Senate Joint Resolution concerning -United States Constitution – Amendments Convention – Limitations on Federal Power

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

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Coley Brown

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Hello Committee Members and Mr. Chairman:

My name is Coley Brown. I live in District 36 where I represent 1,327 supporters as their Convention of States Captain. I want a floor debate on SJ8 to have Maryland to participate in a national Convention of States. This will allow Maryland a voice on: fiscal responsibility – federal overreach – and term limits. These are popular topics with Maryland voters.

To clarify why:

- The Convention of States is not a partisan movement.
- This is not the first Convention of States or without precedent. Our Bill of Rights came from the first Convention.
- The Convention is not chartered to pass any Constitutional amendments.
- The Convention will only have authority to discuss these topics. If the Convention agrees to any recommendations, they go back to each respective state legislature to consider approving. Further for a Constitutional amendments to be accepted, $\frac{3}{4}$'s of the 50 state legislatures need to approve.
- If only part of an individual state's legislature disagrees, then that state will not approve the Convention's recommendations. Opposition from only $\frac{1}{2}$ of the legislatures in $\frac{1}{4}$ of the 50 states will stop an amendment from being adopted.
- Most importantly, If Maryland refuses to attend the Convention, your voters voices and your opinions will not be heard.

I vehemently implore you not to **CENSURE** this discussion! 28,000 of your voters ask you for a simple action and are watching your results. Let SJ8 come to the floor to debate its merits and its flaws.

Thank you sincerely,

Coley Brown