

Written Testimony by Joanna Martin, J.D., on her own behalf,
in Opposition to H 7009 Application
for Congress to call a Convention under Article V, US Constitution

For the Hearing on April 16, 2026:

To: Representative Evan P. Shanley, Chair; Representative Mary Messier, First Vice Chair;
Representative Arthur J. Corvese, Second Vice Chair; and Honorable Members of the House
State Government and Elections Committee:

James Madison, the Father of our Constitution, warned that those who secretly wish for a new Constitution would push for a Convention under the pretext of getting Amendments...

...and a COS Board Member has already co-authored a proposed new Constitution.
Nothing the pro-convention lobbyists tell Legislators about the Article V Convention process is True.

The forces who are pouring hundreds of millions of dollars into getting a Convention don't want Amendments to our Constitution - *they want a Convention so they can replace our Constitution*. New Constitutions are already prepared and waiting in the wings for a Convention. [Our federal Convention of 1787, which was called by the Resolution of Feb. 21, 1787 by the Continental Congress "for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation"](#) resulted in a new Constitution which had a new and easier mode of ratification. That is our only precedent for a Convention addressing our federal Constitution.

1. The Convention provided for at Article V, US Constitution, is not a "convention of states". That term is a marketing gimmick used to create the false belief that the States control the Convention. It's false because **Article V** grants *to Congress* the power to call the Convention; and **Article I, Section 8, last clause**, grants *to Congress* the power to make all laws necessary and proper to exercise its power to call the Convention.

The only power State Legislatures have respecting a Convention is to "apply" to *Congress* for *Congress* to call the Convention - and once the requisite number of States have applied,

the States have nothing more to do with the Convention. It's a *federal* Convention called by the *federal* government for the *federal* purpose of addressing our *federal* Constitution - and *nothing in the Constitution requires Congress to permit States to participate in the Convention.*

Congress recognizes that it has the power to determine the number and selection process for Delegates: See [State Legislatures have no power to select & control Delegates to an Article V Convention](#). *We won't know who the Delegates are until after Congress announces the number & selection process for Delegates & Delegates have been selected in the manner prescribed by Congress.*

2. An Article V Convention is, and has always been, about getting a new Constitution:

- Four US Supreme Court Justices (2 Conservatives & 2 Liberals), Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and other legal scholars warn that a convention cannot be controlled: See [Brilliant Men](#).
- James Madison also warned that those who secretly wish for a new Constitution would push for a Convention under the pretext of getting Amendments. See endnote 3 of [George Mason never said it](#).
- [A COS Board Member, Law Professor Robert P. George, has already co-authored a new Constitution](#) which grants massive new powers to a new federal government.
- The proposed Constitution for The New Socialist Republic in North America was prepared by The Revolutionary Communist Party, USA. [Here](#) is the text of their Constitution.
- Read [here](#) of the Constitution 2020 movement funded by George Soros and supported by Marxist law Professors. They want a Marxist Constitution for the United States.
- Read [here](#) the globalist Council on Foreign Relations' Task Force Report on the North American Union. Under this scheme, Canada, the United States, and Mexico are to be integrated politically and a Parliament & a militarized and unified police force is to be

set up over the three countries. The globalists need a new Constitution before they can move the United States into the North American Union.

- The National Constitution Center's *Constitution Drafting Project* has released three proposed new Constitutions. You can read them [here](#). These proposed Constitutions would transfer massive new powers to the new federal government. [The National Constitution Center is a quasi-official branch of the federal government.](#) *There are forces within the US government which want a new Constitution.....*

3. A new Constitution will have it's own mode of ratification. E.g., the proposed [Constitution for the Newstates of America](#) is ratified by a Referendum called by the President (Article XII, Section 1). The States don't vote on it - they are dissolved and replaced by regional governments answerable to the new national government. Whoever controls the voting machines will determine the outcome.

US Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger described this proposed Constitution in [his letter of April 8, 1986 to Phyllis Schlafly of Eagle Forum](#). Note that in his last paragraph, Justice Burger refers to the professors who "would like to abolish the states, and reorganize the federal structure along the lines of the division of circuits for the Federal Judicial system, or even on a more rigid regional basis".

4. There are real solutions for our problems: States must do as Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, & Alexander Hamilton advised: [refuse to submit to unconstitutional acts of the federal government](#). We should read and support our existing US Constitution - not replace it.

Please take the above to heart and support H 7792 to rescind the Applications Rhode Island already sent to Congress; and defeat H 7009.

At your service,
Joanna Martin, J.D.

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