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Citizens Against an Article V Convention
Written Testimony FOR H7792 (Rescission)
April 16, 2026

To Rep. Evan P. Shanley, Chair; Rep. Mary Messier, First Vice Chair; Rep. Arthur J. Corvese, Second Vice Chair; and Members of the House State Government and Elections Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony **in support of H7792 (Art. V Rescission)**:

All applications asking Congress to call a convention under Article V jeopardize our federal Constitution and endanger our Liberty.

Convention Delegates, as sovereign Representatives of “We the People,” have the self-evident Right “to alter or to abolish” our “Form of Government,” as recognized by the Declaration of Independence, para 2. And we don’t know who those Delegates would be or how they’d be selected.

In order to pass their applications in Rhode Island and in every other State, the convention lobby tells state legislators that a convention would be limited by the scope of the state application, and it would be controlled from start to finish by State Legislatures. **But that isn’t true.**

Moreover, since 2022 the convention lobby has been simultaneously pushing congressional Calls, like **H.CON.RES.15**, that don’t pretend to be limited. If passed, the proposed Call would validate and combine all applications ***ever passed on any national issue*** to meet the 34-state threshold and trigger an unlimited convention. The very existence of **H.CON.RES.15** proves duplicity and empty promises on the part of the Convention Lobby.

The Convention Lobby strategy, which had already begun, was announced in **THIS ARTICLE** (2020) by convention operatives with ties to both the Balanced Budget Amendment (BBA) and the Convention of States (COS) organizations. And they admit that their own scholars don’t believe that Congress has the authority to call a ***limited*** convention!

But if they tell you the truth, you won’t vote for their applications!

The momentum today is for states rescinding—not passing—applications. There have been 13 States that have rescinded all their applications in just the past 9-1/2 years, including four in

2025; meanwhile the Balanced Budget Amendment crowd has claimed only one state in over 8 years, and Convention of States has claimed only one state in the past 4 years! If Rhode Island rescinds all its applications, there would be 18 States today with no active applications whatsoever. Logically, that would prevent 34 States from inadvertently triggering a runaway convention.

Please defend our Constitution by voting **“YES” to Support H 7792.**