

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 10, 2017

The Honorable Karen Haas
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol, Room H154
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Clerk,

Pursuant to section 3(c) of House Resolution 5 (114th Congress), I hereby designate the attached Memorial from the State of Pennsylvania, received by the House of Representatives in the year 1976, as purporting to be an application of the State legislature calling for a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States pursuant to Article V, and request that you make it publicly available.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte
Chairman



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Bureau of the Pennsylvania State Archives
350 North Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0090
www.pastatearchives.com

I do hereby certify that the attached copies were reproduced from an original record on file at the Pennsylvania State Archives, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, in Record Group 7, Records of the General Assembly; House of Representatives; House and Senate Bills and Resolutions (series #7.10), 1975-1976, House Resolution #236. I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the said Commission to be affixed this Eighth day of April A.D. 2016.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jonathan R. Stayer".

Jonathan R. Stayer, Archivist III
Pennsylvania State Archives

In the House of Representatives,

1 WHEREAS, Requesting appropriate action by the Congress,
2 either acting by consent of two-thirds of both Houses or, upon
3 the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several
4 states, calling a Constitutional Convention to propose an
5 amendment to the Federal Constitution to require, with certain
6 exceptions, that the total of all Federal appropriations may not
7 exceed the total of all estimated Federal revenues in any fiscal
8 year.

9 WHEREAS, With each passing year this Nation becomes more
10 deeply in debt as its expenditures grossly and repeatedly exceed
11 available revenues, so that the public debt now exceeds hundreds
12 of billions of dollars; and

13 WHEREAS, The annual Federal budget continually demonstrates
14 an unwillingness or inability of both the legislative and
15 executive branches of the Federal Government to curtail spending
16 to conform to available revenues; and

1 because of the exclusion of special outlays which are not
2 included in the budget nor subject to the legal public debt
3 limit; and

4 WHEREAS, Knowledgeable planning, fiscal prudence, and plain
5 good sense require that the budget reflect all Federal spending
6 and be in balance; and

7 WHEREAS, Believing that fiscal irresponsibility at the
8 Federal level, with the inflation which results from this
9 policy, is the greatest threat which faces our Nation, we firmly
10 believe that constitutional restraint is necessary to bring the
11 fiscal discipline needed to restore financial responsibility;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Under Article V of the Constitution of the United
14 States, amendments to the Federal Constitution may be proposed
15 by the Congress whenever two-thirds of both Houses deem it
16 necessary, or on the application of the Legislatures of
17 two-thirds of the several states the Congress shall call a
18 Constitutional Convention for the purpose of proposing
19 amendments. We believe some such action vital; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, (The Senate concurring), That the General Assembly
21 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania proposes to the Congress of
22 the United States that procedures be instituted in the Congress
23 to add a new article to the Constitution of the United States,
24 and that the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of
25 Pennsylvania requests the Congress to prepare and submit to the
26 several states an amendment to the Constitution of the United
27 States, requiring in the absence of a national emergency that
28 the total of all Federal appropriations made by the Congress for
29 any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated
30 Federal revenues for that fiscal year; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That, alternatively, the General Assembly of the
2 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania makes application and requests that
3 the Congress of the United States States call a Constitutional
4 Convention for the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing
5 an amendment to the Federal Constitution requiring in the
6 absence of a national emergency that the total of all Federal
7 appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not
8 exceed the total of all estimated Federal revenues for that
9 fiscal year; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of
11 Pennsylvania also proposes that the Legislatures of each of the
12 several states comprising the United States apply to the
13 Congress requesting the enactment of an appropriate amendment to
14 the Federal Constitution; or requiring the Congress to call a
15 Constitutional Convention for proposing such an amendment to the
16 Federal Constitution; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to the
18 members of the Congress from Pennsylvania; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the House of
20 Representatives send copies of this joint resolution to the
21 Secretary of State and presiding officers of both Houses of the
22 Legislature of each of the other states in the Union, the Clerk
23 of the United States House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.
24 and the Secretary of the United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

HOUSE

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RESOLUTIONS

No. 236

MAR 31 1970

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