

HCR 17 -- ARTICLE V CONVENTION

SPONSOR: Trent

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 11 to 4. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 3.

This concurrent resolution calls for a convention under Article V of the Constitution of the United States for the purpose of amending the Constitution to impose fiscal restraint on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and create term limits for federal officials and members of Congress. This application repeals the application for an Article V Convention adopted by the General Assembly in SCR 4 (2017).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill renews the sunset on already existing legislation, so it maintains current law. This bill addresses issues that many Americans want addressed, but the federal government will not address on its own. The legislation does not demand anything, but sets up a conversation.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Trent; Bennie Salkil; Joe Widmer; John Adams; Raymond Neal; Patti Siegel; Vivian Gontarz; Arnie C. Dienoff; William Donald McDowell; Convention of States Action; Keith Carmichael; and Guy Clayton.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that this is not the right time for a convention. They also say there is too much unknown to comfortably hold a convention with too many possible unforeseen consequences.

Testifying against the bill were Sierra Club Missouri Chapter; Jordan Henry, Eagle Forum Education & Legal Defense Fund; Concerned Women for America of Missouri; Patricia A. Hubbs; Irina Lipkina-Kler; Alissa Johnson, Concerned Women for America.

OTHERS: Tiffany Marler provided written informational testimony.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.