HCS SCR 4 -- ARTICLE V

SPONSOR: Burlison (Trent)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 9 to 2. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 2 with 1 voting Present.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for SCR 4.

This concurrent resolution applies to the United States Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, for the calling of a convention of the states for the limited purpose of proposing amendments to the U.S. Constitution that impose fiscal restraint on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for federal officials and members of Congress. This application repeals and supercedes the application for an Article V Convention adopted by the General Assembly in SCR 4 (2017).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the power to amend the U.S. Constitution should be held by the states. Multiple states have already passed this measure. Federal government has been overreaching for some time now and should be checked.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Burlison; Arnie Dienoff; Brett Sterley, Convention of States Action; and Keith Carmichael.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that a convention is the wrong way to go about solving these issues. The Federal government will still has control of the convention. Also, there is a possibility that the convention could create an entirely new constitution. Relying on 38 other states will make the process too unpredictable.

Testifying against the bill were Sierra Club Missouri Chapter; Concerned Women for America of Missouri; and Ron Calzone.

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.