

Joint Resolution 3

(Senate Joint Resolution 1)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Rescission of Maryland's Ratification of the Corwin Amendment to the United States Constitution

FOR the purpose of rescinding Maryland's ratification of the Corwin Amendment to the United States Constitution.

WHEREAS, On February 27, 1861, in an attempt to avert the secession of Southern states, United States Representative Thomas Corwin of Ohio proposed an amendment to the United States Constitution that would prohibit the United States Constitution from being amended in a manner that authorizes Congress to abolish or interfere with the states' domestic institutions, including slavery; and

WHEREAS, On March 2, 1861, the Corwin Amendment passed the United States Congress and was submitted to the states for ratification; and

WHEREAS, With the enactment of Chapter 21 of the Acts of 1862, the General Assembly of Maryland ratified the Corwin Amendment; and

WHEREAS, The Corwin Amendment has not been ratified by three-fourths of the states and, therefore, is not part of the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, With the end of the Civil War and the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution, the purposes of the Corwin Amendment have become moot; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the State of Maryland rescinds its ratification of the Corwin Amendment to the United States Constitution, viz:

“Article

No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give to Congress the power to abolish or interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State.”; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Governor of the State of Maryland is requested to forward authentic copies of this Resolution, under the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, to: ~~the Honorable John F. Kerry, Secretary of State of the United States,~~

~~2201 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20520~~ the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, Suite S-212, United States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader, United States Senate, 528 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, 1011 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and ~~the Honorable Dan M. Tangherlini, Administrator of General Services of the United States, 1800 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20405~~ the Honorable David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, 709 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20408.

Signed by the President and the Speaker, May 5, 2014.