Written Testimony in SUPPORT of- Senate Joint Resolution concerning -United States Constitution – Amendments Convention – Limitations on Federal Power

Mary Jane Perraut 2128 Darcy Green Place Silver Spring, MD 20910 Date: February 23, 2022

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Dear Committee Chair, the Honorable Senator Paul Pinsky, and EHEA Committee Members,

*I'm Mary Jane Perraut, a volunteer with the Convention of States, and trying to preserve the freedoms that I have always taken for granted.* 

28,000 conscientious Marylanders and I hope all members of this committee agree that the country is in trouble. As a volunteer, it was sobering to speak with several first-generation immigrants, who wondered if they had made a mistake coming to the United States. They said it is similar to the communist country they left, including censoring speech, growing crime, outright corruption and spiraling debt. It's alarming to see the federal government take sweeping measures and wasting billions to try to solve all problems for all people. That's not the role of the federal government.

As state legislators, you are more closely aware of our needs and how to best allocate resources in our communities, yet you are becoming less relevant. We need to give the power back to you where it belongs through an Article V Convention of the States.

We are losing our economic freedom. Imagine a stack of dollar bills from here to the moon. Now image 9 stacks. That's our National Debt - \$30,000,000,000,000. It's astronomical! In fact, the ratio of debt to GDP is more than after WW2. If this continues unchecked, financial default is inevitable and it will devastate the freedoms of generations to come, who will be punished by our inactions.

Do you think Congress will reduce spending on its own? I think we can all agree that this won't happen without a Convention of States, which gives us not only the <u>right</u> but an <u>obligation</u> to act when necessary. It's time to act to determine your own fate, the fate of Maryland, and that of the Country.

Please vote favorably on SJ8.

Sincerely,

Mary Jane Perraut

