Written Testimony in SUPPORT of SJ8- Senate Joint Resolution concerning -United States Constitution -

Amendments Convention - Limitations on Federal Power

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

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

I am Leslie Jenkins I am a Maryland volunteer for the Convention of States.

Article V was given to the citizens of this nation as a tool to be used when the government has become despotic.

Our founders said that this method of amending the Constitution will probably never be resorted to unless the federal government should betray symptoms of corruption. Symptoms don't even begin to describe the problems our nation has right now. You must be willfully ignorant to not see the corruption and the progression into a socialist country that we have become, or maybe you do, and this is exactly what you would like to see happen.

Article V is to be used and at our disposal instead of a last-minute ditch effort to expedient measures to try and reign in the federal government once it has crossed the barrier of no return. If this occurs, we would then be at the mercy of some radical and ineffectual measures that have no guarantee to retain our freedoms.

I applaud the founders in their wisdom to provide this safe, and peaceable measure by calling for a Convention of States. The abuse of power when allowed to go unchecked brings about greed and corruption as we are seeing today. Article V is the remedy.

This is indeed one of the greatest beauties of the system. And it should strongly be recommended to every candid mind to understand the wisdom behind Article V.

The Constitution of any government which cannot be regularly amended when it has gone off the rails, reduces the people to two dilemmas-

- 1. they must either submit to its oppressions.
- 2. or bring about amendments--more or less, by a civil war.

The Convention of States and its petition signers have seen the progression towards the destruction of our country. We are educating ourselves on the lack of leadership to maintain and secure our rights. Our leaders are choosing to follow a communist doctrine that is enriching their lives instead of retaining our liberty. To do that they have to take the self-governing power from the people and the States so that they can be the only reigning authority.

We are trying to avoid the radical remedy and be proactive with a peaceable remedy which our Constitution gives to us through Article V.

As a Maryland citizen I am asking "If you believe in the Constitution, then use it and bring SJ8 to the floor for a vote."

Thank you for your time,

Leslie Jenkins