

Written Testimony in SUPPORT of Senate Joint Resolution SJ1. concerning -United States Constitution – Amendments Convention – Limitations on Federal Power
House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee

March 8, 2023

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Dear Committee Chair, the Honorable Vice Chair Kagan and Committee Members,

My name is Cody White, I am Eleven years old, and a homeschooled 7th grader from Mechanicsville, MD.

“Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely.” This phrase came from Lord Acton when he sent a letter to Bishop Creighton in 1887, and the sentiment holds true today.

History has shown us that when people stay in power for too long, they become corrupted by it. They forget where they came from and the people who elected them.

Currently, there are members of Congress who have held their jobs for more than 40 years! Honestly, what regular job could they have had? What could they know about the middle class? The poor? They’ve not had to work 2-3 jobs to make ends meet, they don’t have to worry about the price of eggs or how they’re going to feed their families.

Many members of Congress have been in the government for so long that they are totally disconnected from most of America. How are they representing their constituents if they don’t understand them? How can we say we are a representative government if our elected officials don’t actually represent the people they serve?

When the Prime Minister of New Zealand stepped down a few weeks ago she said, “...I am leaving because with such a privileged role, comes responsibility, the responsibility to know when you are the right person to lead, and also when you are not.” I wish more people in Congress were like her.

Term limits are necessary for prosperity. President Eisenhower said, “What is good for the President might very well be good for the Congress” and Americans agreed with him.

I believe that representatives will better represent when we limit how long they can represent us. The founders wanted a truly representative government, so they made it possible for the People to call a Convention of States through their States. This is our chance to make this happen.

This joint resolution includes a provision to discuss and enact an amendment that would address term limits and solve this problem. Please support HJ0002. Thank you very much!