

Written Testimony in SUPPORT of- House Joint Resolution HJ2 – concerning -United States Constitution
– Amendments Convention – Limitations on Federal Power

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Date: March 3, 2023

Rules and Executive Nomination Committee

Dear Committee Chair Anne Healy, and the Honorable Committee Members,

I am Mary Jane Perraut, Regional Captain of Maryland Convention of States, and I represent almost 5,000 Convention of States supporters. I'm thankful for your time today. Our Article V Convention of States resolution is simply calling for a national convention to debate the three topics outlined in the application.

Citizens across the state are concerned about what is happening in Washington and are relieved when they learn that there is a solution. They immediately sign the petition knowing that term limits and fiscal restraints are needed!

A recent survey showed that 80% of voters, across party lines, wanted Congress term-limited. Those opposed have said elections are term limits, yet the President can only serve 2 terms. Congress should be term-limited as well, but it can only be accomplished through a Convention of States.

Inflation, created by federal overspending, lowers our standard of living, and low-income families suffer the most. Wouldn't it be helpful to have one topic in one bill, as we do in Maryland? This helps control costs. So, we are just asking to have a meeting to discuss these types of solutions.

I am sure you have heard from constituents in your district who took the time to let you know that they are tired of DC regulating us, taxing our hard-earned money, and telling us what we can and cannot buy. What you might not know is that over 30,000 Maryland residents support this and the numbers keep growing.

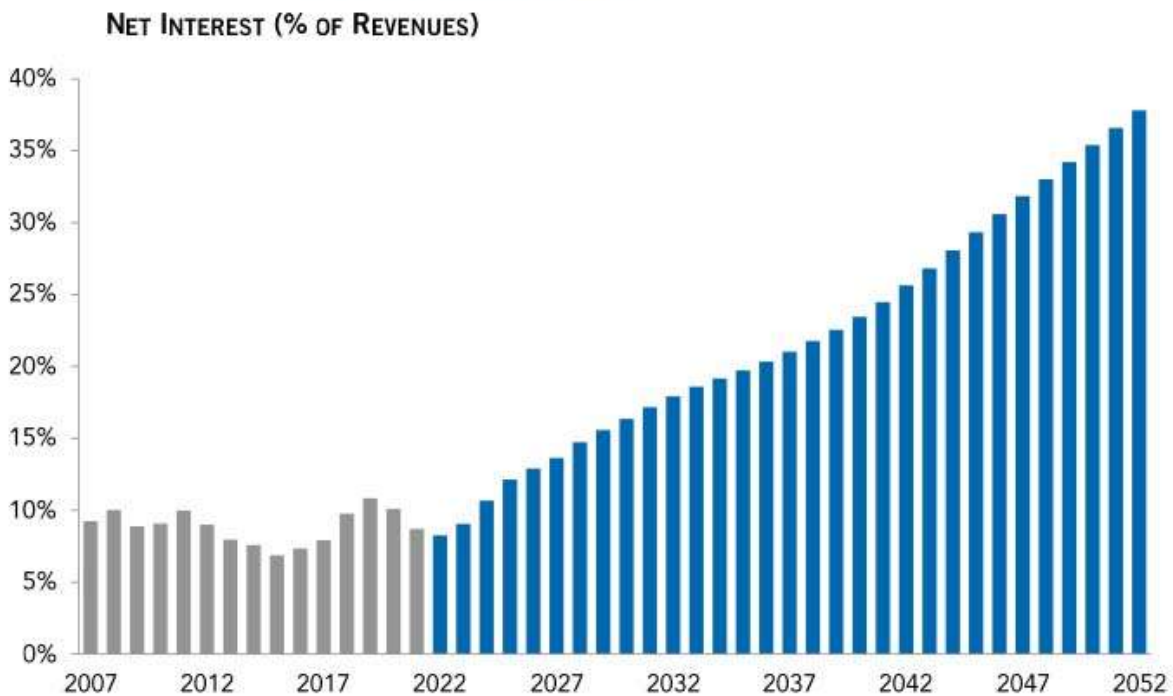
It is exciting to realize that the founders gave us this most powerful, peaceful, legal, and constitutional method to end some of this political madness in DC. As a republic, we need to rebalance the power between the states and the federal government as outlined in the constitution under Article V. Please approve HJ2.

Thank you!

Appendix 1: National Debt Interest Impact on Budget



Net interest costs will account for almost 40 percent of federal revenues by 2052



SOURCE: Congressional Budget Office, *The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2022 to 2032*, May 2022.

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Note

Investors usually don't become concerned until the debt-to-GDP ratio reaches a critical level. The World Bank has said the **tipping point is 77%** or more. In 2022 the Debt to GDP is over this threshold at 121% plus \$173 T of unfunded liabilities.

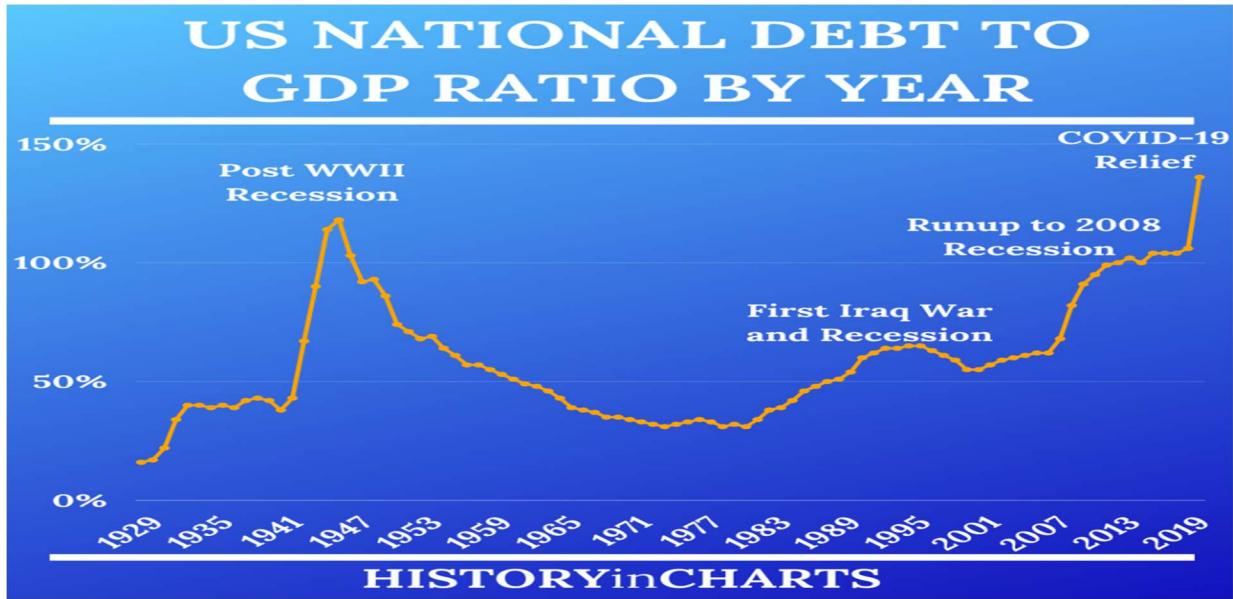
U.S. Debt to GDP

1960 52%

1980 34%

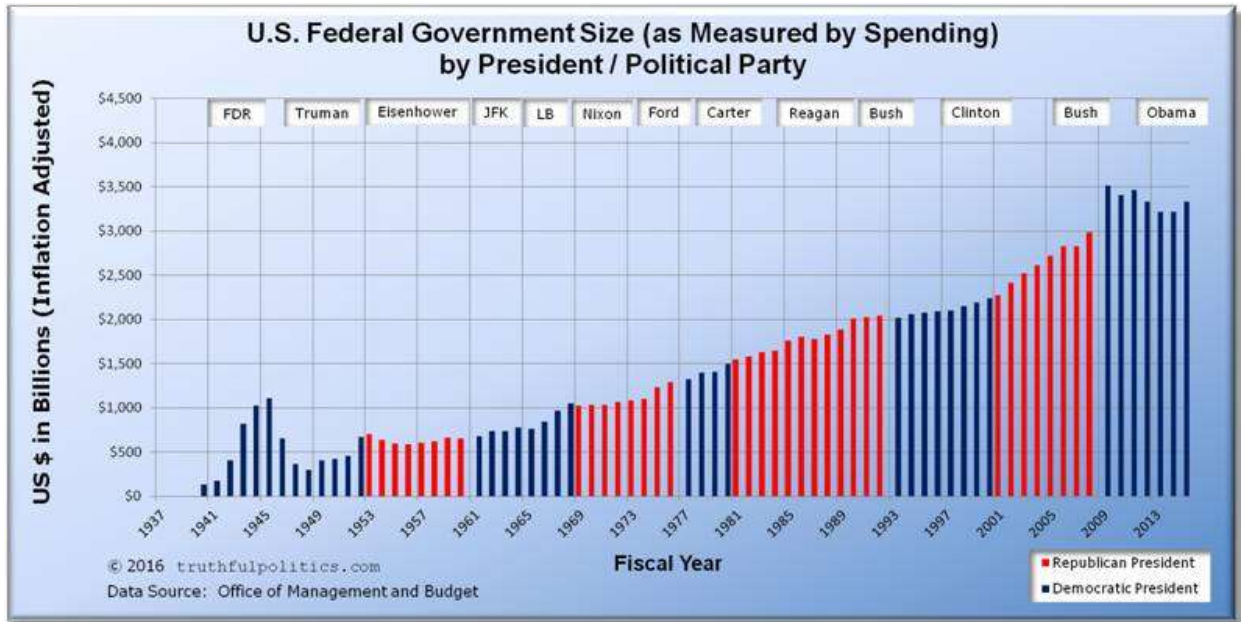
2000 55%

2022 121%



THE USA IS RANKED 11TH IN THE WORLD FOR DEBT TO GDP

[Inflation by Country 2023 - Wisevoter](#)



Appendix 2: Examples of Possible Amendments to be Discussed

- Impose term limits for Senators to 2 terms and Congress to 4 terms
- Limit Supreme Court Justices to nine members.
- Require members of Congress to live under the same laws they pass for the rest of us.
- Require a balanced federal budget.
- Impose limits on federal spending and/or taxation.
- Get the federal government out of our healthcare system.
- Return the education system to the states and localities.
- Stop unelected federal bureaucrats from imposing regulations.
- Set term limits for Supreme Court Justices.
- Set term limits for federal bureaucrats, ending the dominance of the federal bureaucracies.
- Give the primacy of the state over the federal government in energy policy.
- Force the federal government to honor its commitment to return federal lands to the states.
- Prevent the addition of states without the consent of three-quarters of the existing states.
- One bill only includes one topic

Projected annual inflation by country in 2022

