

REFERENCE TITLE: **article V; fiscal responsibility**

State of Arizona
Senate
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First Regular Session
2023

SCR 1014

Introduced by
Senator Kern

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

APPLYING TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO CALL A CONVENTION FOR PROPOSING AN INFLATION-FIGHTING FEDERAL FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, article V of the Constitution of the United States
2 authorizes the states and Congress equally to propose amendments to the
3 United States Constitution; and

4 Whereas, the Constitution mandates that Congress call an article V
5 convention for proposing amendments "upon the Application of two-thirds of
6 the several States"; and

7 Whereas, it is documented in the Congressional Record archives that
8 in 1979 Congress received sufficient article V applications to surpass the
9 threshold requirement for Congress to formally call the convention,
10 including those wanting to discuss amendments to address federal fiscal
11 responsibility. Additionally, several other state applications for a
12 convention did not contain restrictions on their state commissioners as to
13 the subject; and

14 Whereas, since 1979 when the threshold was achieved, fiscal
15 guidelines could have been established to prevent the nation's federal
16 debt from increasing beyond \$850 billion to more than \$30 trillion dollars
17 and to prevent the United States dollar from being devalued by more than
18 75%; and

19 Whereas, as of July 2022 inflation is more than 9.1%, a 40-year
20 high; and

21 Whereas, continued fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level is
22 increasing inflation, reducing economic growth, lowering Americans'
23 standard of living, jeopardizing Social Security and Medicare, putting
24 national security at alarming risk and threatening the economic stability
25 of the several states and the prosperity of Americans for generations to
26 come.

27 Therefore

28 Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of
29 Representatives concurring:

30 1. That, pursuant to article V of the Constitution of the United
31 States, the Legislature of the State of Arizona formally applies to the
32 Congress of the United States to call a convention for the purpose of
33 proposing an inflation-fighting federal fiscal responsibility amendment to
34 the Constitution of the United States.

35 2. That Congress expeditiously approve any House of Representatives
36 and Senate concurrent resolutions directing the Archivist of the United
37 States to announce that the article V application threshold has been met
38 to call for an article V convention for proposing amendments to the United
39 States Constitution or show documented proof to the contrary.

40 3. That the voice of the American people be heard on this matter by
41 requiring ratification by a vote of the people in state ratifying
42 conventions.

43 4. That the Archivist of the United States establish procedures to
44 restore confidence in the federal government's ability to accurately
45 account for the hundreds of article V state applications directed to

1 Congress since the inception of the United States Constitution, including
2 logging receipt, authenticating, securely storing, counting and
3 acknowledging this and all other state applications, and to make public a
4 list of applications that would apply to various subjects. This
5 application shall be counted with balanced budget applications, plenary
6 applications on any subject or any multi-subject applications that, in
7 part, seek to impose fiscal restraints on the federal government. Article
8 V applications remain active until Congress calls for a convention for
9 proposing federal fiscal responsibility amendments unless they are
10 rescinded prior to attaining the two-thirds threshold or exceed any sunset
11 date established by the applying state legislature.

12 5. That the Attorney General of the State of Arizona review and
13 consider all legal options for the Archivist of the United States to
14 maintain a timely and accurate record and to count all state applications
15 under article V, and for Congress to timely execute its ministerial duty
16 to designate the date and place for a convention for proposing amendments
17 any time the two-thirds constitutional threshold is reached for summoning
18 a convention of states for proposing amendments.

19 6. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit
20 copies of this Resolution to the President of the United States, the
21 President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk
22 of the United States House of Representatives, each Member of Congress
23 from the State of Arizona and the presiding officer of each legislative
24 house in each state, requesting their cooperation.