

By: Birdwell, et al.  
(Miller)

S.J.R. No. 2

Substitute the following for S.J.R. No. 2:

By: Darby

C.S.S.J.R. No. 2

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 applying to the Congress of the United States to call a convention  
2 under Article V of the United States Constitution for the limited  
3 purpose of proposing one or more amendments to the constitution to  
4 impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, to limit the  
5 power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and to limit the  
6 terms of office of federal officials and members of Congress.

7 WHEREAS, The drafters of the United States Constitution  
8 empowered state legislatures to be guardians of liberty against  
9 abuses of power by the federal government; and

10 WHEREAS, The federal government has abused its power by  
11 creating a crushing national debt through improper and imprudent  
12 spending; and

13 WHEREAS, The federal government has abused its power by  
14 invading the legitimate role of the states through the manipulative  
15 process of federal mandates that are to a great extent unfunded; and

16 WHEREAS, The federal government has ceased to abide by a  
17 proper interpretation of the United States Constitution; and

18 WHEREAS, It is the solemn duty of state legislatures to  
19 protect the liberty of the people and of future generations by  
20 proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that place  
21 clear restraints on federal power; and

22 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution  
23 authorizes the several state legislatures to restrict the power of  
24 the federal government through the amendment process; and

1           WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution provides  
2 that on application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the  
3 several states Congress shall call a convention for the purpose of  
4 proposing amendments to the constitution; now, therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, That the 85th Texas Legislature apply to Congress  
6 to call a convention under Article V of the United States  
7 Constitution for the limited purpose of proposing one or more  
8 amendments to the constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the  
9 federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of the  
10 federal government, and to limit the terms of office of federal  
11 officials and members of Congress; and, be it further

12           RESOLVED, That, unless rescinded by a succeeding  
13 legislature, this application by the 85th Texas Legislature  
14 constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V  
15 of the United States Constitution until at least two-thirds of the  
16 legislatures of the several states have applied to Congress to call  
17 a convention for the limited purpose of proposing one or more  
18 amendments to the constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the  
19 federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of the  
20 federal government, and to limit the terms of office of federal  
21 officials and members of Congress; and, be it further

22           RESOLVED, That, notwithstanding the provisions of this  
23 resolution, the 85th Texas Legislature makes this application to  
24 Congress and imposes the duties prescribed by this resolution on  
25 the Texas secretary of state only if S.B. 21 or H.B. 506, 85th  
26 Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, becomes law and S.J.R. 38, 85th  
27 Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, takes effect; and, be it

1 further

2           RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
3 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to  
4 the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the  
5 Senate of the Congress of the United States, and to all members of  
6 the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this  
7 resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as an  
8 application to Congress for a convention under Article V of the  
9 United States Constitution for the limited purpose of proposing one  
10 or more amendments to the constitution to impose fiscal restraints  
11 on the federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of  
12 the federal government, and to limit the terms of office of federal  
13 officials and members of Congress; and, be it further

14           RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
15 copies of this resolution to the secretaries of state and to the  
16 presiding officers of the legislatures of the several states with  
17 the request that they join this state in applying to Congress for a  
18 convention under Article V of the United States Constitution for  
19 the limited purpose of proposing one or more amendments to the  
20 constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the federal government,  
21 to limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and  
22 to limit the terms of office of federal officials and members of  
23 Congress.