

By: Birdwell

S.J.R. No. 54

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 89th 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12 RESOLVED, That, unless rescinded by a succeeding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 89th 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 the Texas secretary of state forward official
23 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
24 the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the
25 Senate of the Congress of the United States, and to all members of
26 the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this
27 resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as an

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

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