

the Judicial Conference of the United States" for the March 2016 session; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6737. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Agency, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Thiafentanil into Schedule II" (Docket No. DEA-375) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 26, 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6738. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, Section 105, Relay Services for Deaf-Blind Individuals" ((CG Doc. No. 10-210) (FCC 16-101)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6739. A communication from the Deputy Division Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Improvements to Benchmarks and Related Requirements Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Mobile Handsets" ((FCC 16-103) (WT Docket No. 15-285)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-198. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island urging the United States Congress, pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, to call a convention of the states for purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution relative to campaign finance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

##### HOUSE RESOLUTION 7670

Whereas, The 1st President of the United States George Washington stated, "The basis or our political systems is the right of the people to make and to alter their Constitutions of Government"; and

Whereas, It was the stated intention of the framers of the Constitution of the United States of America that the Congress of the United States of America should be "dependent on the people alone." (James Madison Federalist 52); and

Whereas, That dependency has evolved from a dependency on the people alone to a dependency on those who spend excessively in elections, through campaigns or third-party groups; and

Whereas, The United States Supreme Court ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, 558 U.S. 310 (2010) removed restrictions on amounts of independent political spending; and

Whereas, The removal of those restrictions has resulted in the unjust influence of powerful economic forces, which have supplanted the will of the people by undermining our ability to choose our political leadership, write our own laws, and determine the fate of our state; and

Whereas, Article V of the United States Constitution requires the United States Con-

gress to call a convention for proposing amendments upon application of two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states for the purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution; Now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations hereby sees the need for a convention to propose amendments in order to address concerns such as those raised by the decision of the United States Supreme Court in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission and related cases and events including those occurring long before or afterward or for a substantially similar purpose, and desires that said convention should be so limited; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this House hereby respectfully requests that the delegates to said convention be comprised equally of individuals currently elected to state and local office, or be selected by election, in each Congressional district for the purpose of serving as delegates, though all individuals elected or appointed to federal office, now or in the past, be prohibited from serving as delegates to the Convention, and furthermore requests the ability to restrict or expand the power of its delegates within the limits expressed above; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this House hereby intends that this be a continuing application considered together with applications calling for a convention passed in the 2013-2014 Vermont legislature as R454, the 2013-2014 California legislature as Resolution Chapter 77, the 2013-2014 Illinois legislature as Senate Joint Resolution No. 42, the 2014-2015 New Jersey legislature Senate concurrent Resolution No. 132, and all other passed, pending, and future applications, the aforementioned concerns of Rhode Island notwithstanding until such time as two-thirds of the several states have applied for a Convention and said Convention is convened by Congress; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the citizenry of the State of Rhode Island, speaking through this House of Representatives, and pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, hereby petitions the United States Congress to call a Convention for the purpose of proposing Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America as soon as two-thirds of the several states have applied for a Convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States; the Vice President of the United States in his capacity as President of the United States Senate and addressed to him at the office he maintains in the United States Capitol; the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, and the Rhode Island Congressional Delegation.

POM-199. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Rhode Island urging the United States Congress, pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, to call a convention of the states for purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution relative to campaign finance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 2589

Whereas, The 1st President of the United States George Washington stated, "The basis of our political systems is the right of the people to make and to alter their Constitutions of Government"; and

Whereas, It was the stated intention of the framers of the Constitution of the United

States of America that the Congress of the United States of America should be "dependent on the people alone." (James Madison. Federalist 52); and

Whereas, That dependency has evolved from a dependency on the people alone to a dependency on those who spend excessively in elections, through campaigns or third-party groups; and

Whereas, The United States Supreme Court ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, 558 U.S. 310 (2010) removed restrictions on amounts of independent political spending; and

Whereas, The removal of those restrictions has resulted in the unjust influence of powerful economic forces, which have supplanted the will of the people by undermining our ability to choose our political leadership, write our own laws, and determine the fate of our state; and

Whereas, Article V of the United States Constitution requires the United States Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments upon application of two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states for the purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations hereby sees the need for a convention to propose amendments in order to address concerns such as those raised by the decision of the United States Supreme Court in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission and related cases and events including those occurring long before or afterward or for a substantially similar purpose, and desires that said convention should be so limited; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this Senate hereby respectfully requests that the delegates to said convention be comprised equally of individuals currently elected to state and local office, or be selected by election, in each Congressional district for the purpose of serving as delegates, though all individuals elected or appointed to federal office, now or in the past, be prohibited from serving as delegates to the Convention, and furthermore requests the ability to restrict or expand the power of its delegates within the limits expressed above; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this Senate hereby intends that this be a continuing application considered together with applications calling for a convention passed in the 2013-2014 Vermont legislature as R454, the 2013-2014 California legislature as Resolution Chapter 77, the 2013-2014 Illinois legislature as Senate Joint Resolution No. 42, the 2014-2015 New Jersey legislature Senate concurrent Resolution No. 132, and all other passed, pending, and future applications, the aforementioned concerns of Rhode Island notwithstanding until such time as two-thirds of the several states have applied for a Convention and said Convention is convened by Congress; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the citizenry of the State of Rhode Island, speaking through this Senate, and pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, hereby petitions the United States Congress to call a Convention for the purpose of proposing Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America as soon as two-thirds of the several states have applied for a Convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States; the Vice President of the United States in his capacity as President of the United States Senate and addressed to him at the office he maintains in the United States Capitol; the Speaker of the United States House

of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, and the Rhode Island Congressional Delegation.

POM-200. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Delaware rescinding all previous applications by the Legislature to the United States Congress to call a constitutional convention; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 60

Whereas, the General Assembly of the State of Delaware has, at various times, previously made applications to the Congress of the United States of America to call a convention to propose amendments concerning specific subjects to the United States Constitution, pursuant to Article V; and

Whereas, over the course of time, the will of the people of the State of Delaware may have changed with regard to the General Assembly's previous calls for a convention to amend the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, the General Assembly of the State of Delaware does not want its previous applications for a constitutional convention, most of which were made over 3 decades ago, to be aggregated with calls for a convention from other states: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives of the 148th General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the Senate concurring therein,* That the General Assembly rescinds all prior applications to the Congress of the United States of America to call a convention pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, including all of the following:

1. House Joint Resolution No. 7 (1907).
2. Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6 of the 109th General Assembly (1943).
3. House Concurrent Resolution No. 2 of the 126th General Assembly (1971).
4. House Concurrent Resolution No. 36 of the 128th General Assembly (1976).
5. House Joint Resolution No. 43 of the 128th General Assembly (1976).
6. House Concurrent Resolution No. 9 of the 129th General Assembly (1977).
7. Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 79 of the 129th General Assembly (1978).
8. House Concurrent Resolution No. 56 of the 137th General Assembly (1994); and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be sent to the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, members of the Delaware congressional delegation, and the Administrator of the United States General Services Administration.

POM-201. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia urging the Congress of the United States, pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, to call a convention of the states for the sole and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution that would provide for a balanced budget; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 36

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States provides authority for a Convention to be called by the Congress of the United States for the purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution upon application of two thirds of the Legislatures of the several states ("amendments convention"); and

Whereas, This application is to be considered as covering the same subject matter as the presently outstanding balanced budget applications from other states, including,

but not limited to, previously adopted applications from Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas and Utah, and this application shall be aggregated with same for the purpose of attaining the two thirds of states necessary to require the calling of a convention, but shall not be aggregated with any applications on any other subject; and

Whereas, This application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until the Legislatures of at least two thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject and supersedes all previous applications by this Legislature on the same subject: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That as provided in Article V of the Constitution of the United States the Legislature of the State of West Virginia herewith respectfully applies for an Amendments Convention to Propose a Constitutional Amendment limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring that in the absence of a national emergency the total of all federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year together with any related and appropriate fiscal restraints; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the amendments convention contemplated by this application shall be entirely focused upon and exclusively limited to the subject matter of proposing for ratification an amendment to the Constitution providing that in the absence of a national emergency the total of all federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year together with any related and appropriate fiscal restraints; and be it further

*Resolved,* That this application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until at least two thirds of the Legislatures of the several states have made application for an equivalently limited amendments convention; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Clerk of the House of Delegates forward certified copies of this resolution to the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, to the Speaker and Secretary of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the West Virginia Congressional Delegation, and to the presiding officers of each house of the several State Legislatures, requesting their cooperation in applying for the amendments convention limited to the subject matter contemplated by this application.

POM-202. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia urging the Congress of the United States, pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, to call a convention of the states for the sole and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution that would provide for a balanced budget; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 36

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States provides authority for a Convention to be called by the Congress of the United States for the purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution upon application of two thirds of the Legislatures of the several states ("amendments convention"); and

Whereas, This application is to be considered as covering the same subject matter as the presently outstanding balanced budget applications from other states, including, but not limited to, previously adopted applications from Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas and Utah, and this application shall be aggregated with same for the purpose of attaining the two thirds of states necessary to require the calling of a convention, but shall not be aggregated with any applications on any other subject; and

Whereas, This application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until the Legislatures of at least two thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject and supersedes all previous applications by this Legislature on the same subject: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That as provided in Article V of the Constitution of the United States, the Legislature of the State of West Virginia herewith respectfully applies for an Amendments Convention to Propose a Constitutional Amendment limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring that in the absence of a national emergency the total of all federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year together with any related and appropriate fiscal restraints; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the amendments convention contemplated by this application shall be entirely focused upon and exclusively limited to the subject matter of proposing for ratification an amendment to the Constitution providing that in the absence of a national emergency the total of all federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year together with any related and appropriate fiscal restraints; and be it further

*Resolved,* That this application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until at least two thirds of the Legislatures of the several states have made application for an equivalently limited amendments convention; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Clerk of the House of Delegates forward certified copies of this resolution to the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, to the Speaker and Secretary of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the West Virginia Congressional Delegation, and to the presiding officers of each house of the several State Legislatures, requesting their cooperation in applying for the amendments convention limited to the subject matter contemplated by this application.

POM-203. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to criminal investigations; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

POM-204. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to constitutional conventions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of July 14, 2016, the following reports of committees were submitted on August 30, 2016: