



70 Main Street • Suite 23 • Warrenton, VA 20186 • Phone: (540) 341-8911 • Fax: (540) 341-8916
E-mail: ampolicycenter@hotmail.com • Web Address: www.americanpolicy.org

URGENT!

Stop the Con Con!

Mrs Frances Woerner
4709 Prairie Ln
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284-8263

Dear Mrs Woerner:

The American Policy Center (APC) has been making headlines.

We are in the thick of a battle to stop a dangerous call for a Constitutional Convention – or a “Con Con” as it’s called.

I urgently need your help to slam the door on this insanity once and for all.

Let me explain.

Late one evening, early in December, I received a phone call from a friend and ally from Ohio, my home state.

He told me that the next morning the Ohio House of Representatives was holding hearings on a resolution to petition the US Congress to call a Constitutional Convention.

This resolution was coming from conservative Republicans.

They were not part of some diabolical left wing conspiracy.

These legislators were genuinely concerned with the spending orgy taking place in Washington, DC over the bailouts and other connected programs.

They simply wanted to do something to stop it.

So why was I so concerned?

What these legislators didn’t understand was that there is no way to control what is discussed at a Con Con once it is called by Congress.

No way at all. Period.

Article V of the Constitution does not provide answers to ANY of these questions:

Who would choose the delegates?

What qualifications must they have to be delegates?

What powers would the delegates have?

No one knows the answers to these questions until Congress makes them up!

The fact is, once 34 states (two thirds) petition Congress to convene a Constitutional Convention, the matter is completely out of the states' hands.

The states cannot control the debate to only discuss one issue like a balanced budget amendment – it's simply impossible.

Once the 34 states call for a Con Con they have no more power Constitutionally.

Congress decides. That means Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid.

Congress would decide IF the states can have a say.

Congress would decide HOW delegates would be chosen.

Maybe Congress would let the governor of each state choose the delegates.

Maybe it would let the state legislatures choose?

Or maybe delegates would be chosen by a special blue ribbon panel?

Or maybe by a vote of the people. A plebiscite.

Who could then vote in such a plebiscite? All eligible voters?

Or just Taxpayers? (Don't bet on it)

Or would we possibly – in the interest of "enfranchisement" allow all citizens and foreign nationals vote in this "special election."

Congress would decide the answers to all of these questions.

And what would be the qualifications for delegates?

Should they all be lawyers?

Constitutional scholars?

"Proportional" representation?

Select members of non-governmental organizations (NGOs)?

There are no formal answers to any of these questions. All of these things would only be answered after the 34th state voted for a Con Con resolution and put the mechanism in operation. **Again, Congress would decide!**

Do you want to risk our Constitution on such an uncertainty? Do you want to make it an open target to every American-hating special interest?

I don't. And that's why I rushed to action to stop it.

And there is more to this battle.

Once the delegates are chosen, they become "super delegates" answerable to no one.

They can enter the convention, close and lock the doors, and meet in complete secret and do whatever they want.

That's exactly what happened at the first and ONLY Con Con in 1787.

A brief history lesson:

The states in 1787 were operating under the Articles of Confederation – a very loose association of the sovereign states.

But they were having trouble in dealing with interstate commerce among the states. So they decided to hold a convention to simply discuss how to address that issue.

Several states specifically instructed their delegations to discuss nothing more than the commerce issue.

But once the delegates gathered at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, they quickly closed and locked the doors and met in secret for a month, telling no one what they were doing.

When they were finished, they had created a completely new government unlike any before seen in the history of man.

We were lucky then. We had great patriots and brilliant minds like Ben Franklin, James Madison and George Washington – men dedicated to the very spirit of liberty, as outlined in The Declaration of Independence.

Today we have Nancy Pelosi, Harry Reid, Barack Obama and hordes of leaders who believe the Constitution is an antiquated document, written by dead slave owners lacking in "social justice."

A Constitution Convention would simply allow these people to put the Constitution on an operating table and take out their scalpels and cut to shreds the greatest governing document in the world.

And there is more.

Many of the proponents of a Con Con have attacked my opposition, saying it is overblown.

They say that no matter what comes out of the Convention, the Constitution says that two thirds of the states still have to ratify it in order to allow the changes. So we are safe!

First of all, given the history we have had in fighting battles like the Equal Rights Amendment in recent times, fighting to stop ratification is simply not a battle I would want to fight. Rules get changed. Courts can't be trusted.

And there is this little tidbit of history that many people don't know.

Under the Articles of Confederation, before any changes could be made to that document, **100%** of the states were required to ratify them.

But, when the new constitution was presented to the states, **only two thirds needed to ratify it.**

How could that be?

In short, Article V of the new constitution was in effect – BEFORE it was even law of the land.

That is now a historic precedent that can be used by a new Con Con.

That means that a new Con Con could write a completely new government that no longer needs to be ratified by ANYONE. The Con Con could produce a new government that is a complete dictatorship.

So much for the argument that the Constitution will protect us.

These are the reasons why I worked so hard to stop the Con Con resolution in Ohio.

And it's even worse.

As we began our fight to stop the Ohio resolution, we discovered records show that 32 states have already passed resolutions calling for a Con Con specifically to discuss a balanced budget amendment.

If passed – Ohio would have become 33!

Those 32 state resolutions were passed in the mid 1970s. In fact, some people argue that as many as 37 state resolutions were passed.

We really don't know. The record is very confusing.

In addition, records show that anywhere from 3 to 10 states passed resolutions

to rescind the Con Con calls.

Others say that there is no provision in the Constitution to rescind a Con Con call once it has been made. And proponents say they will ignore them and continue to count all states that have called for a Con Con on the balanced budget issue. And they will let the courts fight it out.

Who is right? We don't know.

But we do know that there is a very strong effort growing in conservative Republican circles to push for more Con Con resolutions.

We defeated Ohio's. But now I've been told that State Senator Emmett Hanger of Virginia is planning to introduce a Con Con resolution in that state.

Meanwhile, the Governor of Minnesota, Tim Pawlenty is already urging his fellow Republicans to push for getting a balanced budget amendment through congress and he says the only way is through a Constitutional Convention.

This is a growing threat and we must stop it now – before it's too late.

I urgently need you to take two immediate actions.

First, I have enclosed two petitions.

One is to the speaker of your state's House of Representatives.

The other is to the head of your state's Senate.

Each petition urges your state to take action.

If they have not passed a Con Con resolution, then the petition urges them not to.

If the state has already passed a Con Con resolution on the balanced budget issue, then the petitions urge them to vote to rescind it.

I have decided to ignore the argument that a state can't rescind a Con Con call.

I believe that if we can get 10 states to take this action then we will have the moral high ground in a court of law to block any new Con Con calls.

If ten states in 2009 stand up and say actions taken 30 years ago no longer count – that will be a powerful argument in our favor.

And if we can warn other states not to even consider a Con Con resolution, then we can prevent the backers of this insanity from gaining even one more state. We can stop this.

So, today, please sign both petitions and return them to me in the enclosed envelope as quickly as possible. I will write my own letter, which will be signed by several organizations, to include with your petition (and thousands more from other

loyal Americans) to each state legislative leader.

Second, I urgently need your financial support to lead this battle. Along with your signed petitions, please enclose your contribution to APC for \$54.00 or even \$108.00 or more if you can.

APC is the leader of this effort. Our Sledgehammer Alert put the spot light on this very urgent issue and, not only alerted other to join our fight, but we were able to generate hundreds of calls and e-mails in the offices of the Ohio legislators even as the hearing was going on. The result was that the legislature immediately cancelled a scheduled vote on the Con Con resolution and then later dropped the whole idea.

Now we have to fight in more states. We must be ready.

That's why your contribution is so vital.

You know that we are already gearing up to fight the "Obama wars" on illegal immigration, invasions of personal privacy, UN treaties, property rights land grabs, climate change legislation, and so much more.

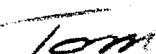
But this Con Con insanity must be stopped – now. We must poison the issue so no legislator will dare touch it in any state.

That can only be done by fighting with full force – as we did in Ohio.

So please, join me in this historic fight. Sign your petitions to each of your state legislative leaders and send APC a contribution to help me lead this battle.

I deeply appreciate all of your support. APC will not let you down.

Sincerely,



Tom DeWeese
President

P.S. I have enclosed a list of all the states which our records show have passed a Con Con resolution. And I have included the dates it was voted on. We need to get each of these states to rescind their Con Con resolutions. It is terrifying to think these resolutions are out there and only two more are needed to put our Constitution on an operating table to be cut to shreds. Please help me stop it.

States' Action

Alabama: applications enacted on August 14, 1975 and September 18, 1976, [the 1976 application was rescinded on April 28, 1988, and the 1975 application was rescinded on September 22, 1988]

Alaska: application enacted on Feb. 3, 1982

Arizona: applications enacted on May 19, 1977 and March 9, 1979; rescinded SCR 1022

Arkansas: application enacted on Jan. 22, 1979

Colorado: application enacted on March 29, 1978

Delaware: application enacted on June 11, 1975

Florida: applications enacted on May 13, 1976 and June 10, 1976 [both applications rescinded on May 5, 1988]

Georgia: application enacted on Jan. 19, 1976; rescinded 2004

Idaho: application enacted on Feb. 21, 1979

Indiana: applications enacted on March 7, 1957 and March 28, 1979

Iowa: application enacted on Feb. 22, 1979

Kansas: application enacted on April 26, 1978

Louisiana: applications enacted on July 12, 1975, June 29, 1978, and July 9, 1979

Maryland: application enacted on April 3, 1975

Mississippi: application enacted on March 20, 1975

Missouri: application enacted on May 26, 1983

Nebraska: application enacted on Feb. 23, 1976

Nevada: application enacted on March 12, 1979

New Hampshire: application enacted on April 26, 1979

New Mexico: application enacted on Feb. 16, 1978

North Carolina: application enacted on Jan. 26, 1979

North Dakota: application enacted on March 12, 1975

Oklahoma: application enacted on April 15, 1976

Oregon: application enacted on July 11, 1977

Pennsylvania: application enacted on Nov. 9, 1978

South Carolina: applications enacted on Feb. 12, 1976, Feb. 25, 1976 and May 16, 1978; rescinded 2004

South Dakota: application enacted on Jan. 31, 1979

Tennessee: application enacted on March 30, 1977

Texas: application enacted May 31, 1977

Utah: application enacted Feb. 1, 1979

Virginia: application enacted on March 10, 1976; rescinded 2004

Wyoming: application enacted on Feb. 17, 1977

Note: According to records, we can find the States of Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina and Virginia have rescinded their applications.