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ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3951 http://www.house.gov/judiciary

February 19, 2015

The Honorable Karen Haas Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives U.S. Capitol, Room H154 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Clerk,

Pursuant to section 3(c) of House Resolution 5 (114th Congress), I hereby designate the attached Memorial from the State of Florida, received by the House of Representatives in the year 2014, as purporting to be an application of the State legislature calling for a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States pursuant to Article V, and request that you make it publicly available.

Hordlatte

Sincerely,

Chairman

JOHN CONYERS, JR., Michigan RANKING MEMBER

JERROLD NADLER, New York ZOE LOFGREN, Cal SHEILA JACKSON LEE, Texas STEVE COHEN, Tennessee HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR., Georgia PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, Puerto Rico PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, Puerto Rico JUDY CHU, California TED DEUTCH, Florida LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ, Illinois KAREN BASS, California CEDRIC L. RICHMOND, Louisiana SUZAN K. DELBENE, Washington HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES, New York DAVID CICILLINE, Rhode Island SCOTT PETERS, California

CS/HM 261

House Memorial 261

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, applying to Congress to call a convention for the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to provide that every law enacted by Congress shall embrace only one subject, which shall be clearly expressed in its title.

WHEREAS, each measure before a legislative body should pass on its own merits without depending on legislative support for other unrelated measures to achieve the required number of votes for passage, and

WHEREAS, a single-subject constitutional provision addresses this concern by prohibiting a legislative body from enacting a law that embraces more than one subject, and

WHEREAS, 41 of the 50 states, including Florida, have a single-subject provision in their respective state constitutions, and the legislatures and citizens of these states have benefited from a single-subject requirement, and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the United States of America, touching the lives of every citizen in the several states, but is missing this important provision, and

WHEREAS, our great country is deep in debt and Congress is currently searching for a solution, and

Page 1 of 3

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.



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2014 CS/HM 261

WHEREAS, a federal single-subject amendment would provide the means to limit pork barrel spending, control the phenomenon of legislating through riders, limit omnibus legislation produced by logrolling, prevent public surprise, and increase the institutional accountability of Congress and its members, and

WHEREAS, it is Florida's hope and desire that Congress will be able to conduct its business in a more productive, efficient, transparent, and less acrimonious way with a single-subject requirement, and

WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States makes provision for amending the Constitution on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, calling a convention for proposing amendments that shall be valid to all intents and purposes if ratified by the legislatures of threefourths of the several states or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by Congress, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the Legislature of the State of Florida, with all (1)due respect, does hereby make application to the Congress of the United States pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States to call a convention for the sole purpose of

Page 2 of 3



CS/HM 261 2014

proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to provide that Congress shall pass no bill, and no bill shall become law, which embraces more than one subject, that subject to be clearly expressed in the bill's title.

- (2) That this memorial is revoked and withdrawn, nullified, and superseded to the same effect as if it had never been passed, and be retroactive to the date of passage, if it is used for the purpose of calling a convention or used in support of conducting a convention to amend the Constitution of the United States for any purpose other than requiring that every law enacted by Congress embrace only one subject, which shall be clearly expressed in the title.
- (3) That 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 states have made applications on the same subject.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

Filed in Office of the Secretary of State on JUN 5 2014

Page 3 of 3

d States Congress.