

# House Joint Resolution 12 - Introduced

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 12  
BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO HJR 11)

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution calling for an Article V convention in order  
2 to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United  
3 States that impose fiscal restraints, and limit the power  
4 and jurisdiction of the federal government, and requesting  
5 Congress to similarly propose such amendments.  
6 WHEREAS, the founders of the Constitution of the United  
7 States empowered state legislators to be guardians of liberty  
8 against future abuses of power by the federal government; and  
9 WHEREAS, the federal government has created a crushing  
10 national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and  
11 WHEREAS, the federal government has invaded the legitimate  
12 roles of the states through the manipulative process of federal  
13 mandates, most of which are unfunded to a great extent; and  
14 WHEREAS, the federal government has ceased to live under  
15 a proper interpretation of the Constitution of the United  
16 States; and  
17 WHEREAS, it is the solemn duty of the states to protect  
18 the liberty of our people, particularly for the generations  
19 to come, by proposing amendments to the Constitution of the  
20 United States through a convention of the states under Article  
21 V of the Constitution of the United States for the purpose of  
22 restraining these and related abuses of power; NOW THEREFORE,  
23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 That the Congress of the United States is hereby petitioned  
2 to propose an amendment to the Constitution of the United  
3 States, for submission to the states for ratification, to  
4 impose fiscal restraints on the federal government and limit  
5 the federal government's power and jurisdiction; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, pursuant to Article V of the  
7 Constitution of the United States, the General Assembly, as the  
8 legislature of the state of Iowa, joins in the applications of  
9 the states of Georgia (SR 736, 2014), Florida (SM 476, 2014),  
10 Alaska (HJR 22, 2014), Alabama (HJR 112, 2015), Tennessee  
11 (SJR 67, 2016), Indiana (SJR 14, 2016), Oklahoma (SJR 4,  
12 2016), and Louisiana (SCR 52, 2016), for a convention for the  
13 specific and exclusive purpose of proposing amendments to the  
14 Constitution of the United States limited to the purposes  
15 stated therein, provided, however, that the delegates from  
16 Iowa to said convention are expressly limited to consideration  
17 and support of amendments that impose fiscal restraints on the  
18 federal government, and amendments that limit the power and  
19 jurisdiction of the federal government, and no amendments on  
20 any other topic; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is the express intention of  
22 the General Assembly that this application shall be aggregated  
23 with the prior and subsequent applications of other states  
24 limited to the purposes identified in this application; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this application constitutes  
26 a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the  
27 Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at  
28 least two-thirds of the several states have made applications  
29 for a similar convention under Article V, or the General  
30 Assembly resolves to withdraw this application; and

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State shall  
32 transmit certified copies of this resolution to the President  
33 and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and  
34 Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the  
35 presiding officer of each house of the legislature of each of

1 the several states, and to each member of Iowa's congressional  
2 delegation.

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EXPLANATION

4           The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
5           the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

6       This joint resolution constitutes an application requesting  
7 the United States Congress to call a constitutional convention  
8 in order to propose amendments to the Constitution of the  
9 United States to impose fiscal restraints on the federal  
10 government and limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal  
11 government. The resolution stipulates that Iowa's delegates  
12 to such a convention are expressly limited to consideration  
13 and support of amendments on those topics. The resolution  
14 constitutes a continuing application to call a constitutional  
15 convention and states the intention of the General Assembly  
16 that the application be aggregated with the prior and  
17 subsequent applications of other states limited to the purposes  
18 identified in the resolution.

19       The resolution also petitions the Congress of the United  
20 States to propose an amendment to the Constitution of the  
21 United States to impose fiscal restraints on the federal  
22 government and limit the federal government's power and  
23 jurisdiction.

24       The resolution requires the Secretary of State to transmit  
25 certified copies of this resolution to the President and  
26 Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk  
27 of the United States House of Representatives, the presiding  
28 officer of each house of the legislature of each state, and to  
29 the members of Iowa's congressional delegation.