

# Senate Joint Resolution 8 - Introduced

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8  
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE  
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1110)

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution applying for an Article V convention to  
2 propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States  
3 that impose fiscal restraints, and limit the power and  
4 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 for the purpose of restraining these and  
22 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  
8 the Legislature of the State of Iowa, makes application to  
9 the Congress of the United States to call a convention for the  
10 specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to  
11 the Constitution of the United States, for submission to the  
12 states for ratification, to impose fiscal restraints on the  
13 federal government and limit the federal government's power and  
14 jurisdiction; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That pursuant to Article V of  
16 the Constitution of the United States, the Iowa General  
17 Assembly, as the Legislature of the State of Iowa, joins in the  
18 applications of the states of Georgia (SR 736, 2014), Florida  
19 (SM 476, 2014), Alaska (HJR 22, 2014), Alabama (HJR 112, 2015),  
20 Tennessee (SJR 67, 2016), Indiana (SJR 14, 2016), Oklahoma (SJR  
21 4, 2016), and Louisiana (SCR 52, 2016) limited to the purposes  
22 stated therein, provided, however, that the delegates from  
23 Iowa to said convention are expressly limited to consideration  
24 and support of amendments that impose fiscal restraints on the  
25 federal government and limit the federal government's power and  
26 jurisdiction; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is the express intention of  
28 the General Assembly that this application shall be aggregated  
29 with the applications of the above-mentioned states and with  
30 subsequent applications of other states limited to the purposes  
31 identified in this application and in those applications of the  
32 above-mentioned states; and

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this application constitutes  
34 a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the  
35 Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at

1 least two-thirds of the several states have made applications  
2 for a similar convention under Article V, or the General  
3 Assembly acts to withdraw this application; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State  
5 shall transmit certified copies of this Joint Resolution  
6 to the President and Secretary of the United States  
7 Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of  
8 Representatives, the presiding officer in each house of the  
9 legislature in each of the states in the union, and to the  
10 members of Iowa's congressional delegation requesting their  
11 cooperation.

12 EXPLANATION

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

15 This joint resolution provides that pursuant to Article V of  
16 the United States Constitution, the Iowa General Assembly both  
17 petitions the United States Congress to propose an amendment  
18 to the United States Constitution on its own and applies  
19 to the United States Congress to call a convention for the  
20 specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to  
21 the United States Constitution, for submission to the states  
22 for ratification, to impose fiscal restraints on the federal  
23 government and limit the federal government's power and  
24 jurisdiction.

25 The joint resolution additionally provides that pursuant to  
26 Article V of the United States Constitution, the Iowa General  
27 Assembly joins in the applications of several specified states  
28 for a convention to impose fiscal restraints, and that the  
29 delegates from Iowa shall be expressly limited to consideration  
30 and support of amendments that impose such restraints on the  
31 federal government and limit the federal government's power and  
32 jurisdiction.

33 Further, the joint resolution provides that it shall serve  
34 as a continuing application to call a constitutional convention  
35 until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several

1 states have made application for a similar convention, or the  
2 General Assembly acts to withdraw the application.

3 Finally, the joint resolution requires the Secretary  
4 of State to transmit certified copies of the resolution  
5 to the President and Secretary of the United States  
6 Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House  
7 of Representatives, the presiding officer in each house of  
8 the legislature in each of the states in the union, and the  
9 members of Iowa's congressional delegation requesting their  
10 cooperation.