

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, February 9, 2009

House Joint
Resolution No. 1004

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1004 - By: WRIGHT (JOHN) of the House and ALDRIGDE of the Senate.

A Joint Resolution relating to a federal constitutional convention; rescinding, repealing, canceling, voiding and superseding any and all extant applications by the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma heretofore made during any session thereof to the Congress of the United States of America to call a convention pursuant to the terms of Article V of the United States Constitution for proposing one or more amendments to that Constitution; urging the legislatures of other states to do the same; and directing distribution.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma, acting with the best of
2 intentions, has, at various times, and during various sessions, previously made
3 applications to the Congress of the United States of America to call one or more
4 conventions to propose either a single amendment concerning a specific subject or to call
5 a general convention to propose an unspecified and unlimited number of amendments to
6 the United States Constitution, pursuant to the provisions of Article V thereof; and

7 WHEREAS, leading constitutional scholars agree that such a convention may
8 propose sweeping changes to the Constitution, any limitations or restrictions purportedly
9 imposed by the states in applying for such a convention or conventions to the contrary

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1 notwithstanding, thereby creating an imminent peril to the well-established rights of the
2 citizens and the duties of various levels of government; and

3 WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States of America has been amended
4 many times in the history of this nation and may be amended many more times, without
5 the need to resort to a constitutional convention, and has been interpreted for more than
6 two hundred (200) years and has been found to be a sound document which protects the
7 lives and liberties of the citizens; and

8 WHEREAS, there is not need for, rather, there is great danger in, a new
9 Constitution or in opening the Constitution to sweeping changes, the adoption of which
10 would only create legal chaos in this nation and only begin the process of another two
11 centuries of litigation over its meaning and interpretation.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
13 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 52ND
14 OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

15 THAT the Legislature does hereby rescind, repeal, cancel, nullify, and supersede to
16 the same effect as if they had never been passed, any and all extant applications by the
17 Legislature of the State of Oklahoma to the Congress of the United States of America to
18 call a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States of
19 America, pursuant to the terms of Article V thereof, regardless of when or by which
20 session or sessions of the Oklahoma Legislature such applications were made and
21 regardless of whether such applications were for a limited convention to propose one or
22 more amendments regarding one or more specific subjects and purposes or for a general

1 convention to propose an unlimited number of amendments upon an unlimited number of
2 subjects.

3 THAT the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma urges the legislatures of each and
4 every state which has applied to Congress to call a convention for either a general or a
5 limited constitutional convention, to repeal and withdraw such applications.

6 THAT copies of this resolution be dispatched to the Secretary of the United States
7 Senate, to the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and to the Oklahoma
8 Congressional Delegation.

9 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON RULES, dated 02-05-09 - DO PASS, As
10 Coauthored.