

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR
5 SENATE JOINT
6 RESOLUTION NO. 32

By: Floyd

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 A Joint Resolution relating to an Article V
9 Convention for proposing amendments to the United
10 States Constitution and a gathering of the states in
11 preparation for an Article V Convention; authorizing
12 a delegation of commissioners from this state to
13 attend and participate in gatherings of the states;
14 stating purpose; providing for selection and
15 composition of the delegation; providing that the
16 delegation shall be bound by the rules established
17 for the gathering of states; providing that the
18 delegation to the convention of states shall also
19 serve as commissioners to the Article V Convention
20 for proposing amendments to the United States
21 Constitution when called; providing for selection of
22 alternates; prohibiting commissioners to the Article
23 V Convention from voting for unauthorized amendments;
24 providing for replacement of commissioners who
violate the prohibition; providing for voting;
requiring the taking of an oath; establishing an
Article V Convention Committee; providing composition
and duties; requiring commissioner to adhere to
certain principles; providing termination date; and
directing filing and distribution.

22 WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States
23 provides that upon receipt of applications from two-thirds of the
24

1 legislatures of the several states, Congress shall call a convention
2 of the states for proposing amendments; and

3 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Legislature adopted Senate Joint
4 Resolution No. 4 in the 2nd Session of the 55th Oklahoma Legislature
5 that applied to the Congress of the United States "for the calling
6 of a convention of the states limited to proposing an amendment to
7 the Constitution of the United States requiring that in the absence
8 of a national emergency the total of all federal appropriations made
9 by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all
10 estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year, together with any
11 related and appropriate fiscal restraints"; and

12 WHEREAS, it appears that two-thirds of the states, including
13 Oklahoma, soon will have applied for a convention to propose such an
14 amendment adding to the United States Constitution a requirement
15 that the federal government balance its budget; and

16 WHEREAS, it has also been proposed by several states, including
17 Oklahoma, that a convention be called for proposing amendments to
18 "impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power
19 and jurisdiction of the federal government and limit the terms of
20 office for its officials and for members of Congress"; and

21 WHEREAS, in its call Congress will be required to specify an
22 initial time and place for the meeting of the Article V Convention
23 for proposing amendments; and
24

1 WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the state legislatures to prepare
2 for the Article V Convention and recommend to Congress an initial
3 time and place to hold the convention; and

4 WHEREAS, a gathering of the states called by a state legislature
5 and consisting of members authorized by other state legislatures
6 would be an effective way of considering and recommending solutions
7 to common issues related to an Article V Convention, including
8 planning for and recommending rules and procedures for an Article V
9 Convention, and recommending to Congress the initial date and
10 location of an Article V Convention; and

11 WHEREAS, a planning convention of the several states in
12 September in Phoenix, Arizona, was attended by a delegation from
13 Oklahoma as authorized by House Concurrent Resolution No. 1007 of
14 the 1st Session of the 56th Oklahoma Legislature.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
16 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 57TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

17 THAT a delegation of commissioners selected as provided in this
18 resolution shall be authorized to attend and participate in a
19 gathering of states proposed by any state legislature for the
20 purposes of developing rules and procedures for an Article V
21 Convention for proposing amendments to the United States
22 Constitution to require a balanced federal budget, or to impose
23 fiscal restraints on the federal government, to limit the power and
24 jurisdiction of the federal government and to limit the terms of

1 office for federal officials and members of Congress and for
2 proposing an initial date and location for the meeting of the
3 several states in an Article V Convention.

4 THAT the delegation of commissioners shall be composed of seven
5 members, three of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
6 Oklahoma House of Representatives, three of whom shall be appointed
7 by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate, plus one
8 member appointed by agreement between the Speaker of the Oklahoma
9 House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the
10 Oklahoma Senate.

11 THAT two of the commissioners appointed by the Speaker of the
12 Oklahoma House of Representatives shall be current members of the
13 Oklahoma House of Representatives at the time of appointment, and
14 two of the commissioners appointed by the President Pro Tempore of
15 the Oklahoma State Senate shall be current members of the Oklahoma
16 State Senate at the time of appointment. The third commissioner
17 appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives
18 shall be a current or former member of the Oklahoma House of
19 Representatives and the third commissioner appointed by the
20 President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate shall be a
21 current or former member of the Oklahoma State Senate. Of the three
22 commissioners appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of
23 Representatives, two shall be registered members of the majority
24 party of the Oklahoma Legislature and one from the minority party.

1 Of the three Commissioners appointed by the President Pro Tempore of
2 the Oklahoma State Senate, one shall be a registered member of the
3 majority party of the Oklahoma Legislature and two from the minority
4 party.

5 THAT the commissioners shall be bound by the rules adopted by
6 the gathering of the states or provided for in the proposal for the
7 Article V Convention.

8 THAT unless otherwise provided by the Oklahoma Legislature, the
9 commissioners provided for in this resolution shall also serve as
10 commissioners to the Article V Convention for proposing amendments
11 to the United States Constitution when called and shall be bound by
12 the rules adopted by the members of the Article V Convention.

13 THAT if a commissioner is unable to participate in either the
14 state gathering or an Article V Convention to propose amendments to
15 the United States Constitution either permanently or temporarily,
16 the appointing authority or authorities shall select an alternate,
17 who shall be a current or former member of the appointing
18 authority's legislative body and be a registered member of the same
19 party as the Commissioner being replaced, to serve for the time the
20 commissioner is unable to serve. The alternate shall be bound by
21 the same rules and procedures as the original commissioner.

22 THAT no commissioner or alternate from this state to an Article
23 V Convention shall have the authority to vote to allow consideration
24

1 of or vote to approve an unauthorized amendment for ratification to
2 the United States Constitution.

3 THAT any commissioner or alternate casting a vote to allow
4 consideration or approval of an unauthorized amendment shall be
5 immediately recalled by the appointing authority or authorities and
6 be replaced by an alternate.

7 THAT all voting in either a gathering of states or an Article V
8 Convention shall be by state with each state having one vote.

9 THAT commissioners and alternates shall take the following oath
10 of office before accepting their appointment:

11 "I do solemnly swear or affirm that to the best of my abilities
12 I will, as a commissioner (alternate commissioner) to a convention
13 for proposing any amendment to the United States Constitution,
14 uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States and the State
15 of Oklahoma.

16 I will abide by my specific instructions from the Legislature of
17 the State of Oklahoma. I will not vote to allow consideration of or
18 to approve any amendment proposed for ratification to the United
19 States Constitution that is unrelated to the subject of the approved
20 call of the convention by Congress.

21 I will vote only for convention rules that provide that each
22 state have one equal vote and that a state or commissioner shall not
23 be allowed to propose an amendment that is unrelated to the approved
24 call of the convention. I acknowledge that any violation of this

1 oath may result in being recalled by the Legislature of the State of
2 Oklahoma or its authorized committee."

3 THAT an Article V Convention Committee shall be composed of
4 three members of the Legislature. Two members shall be registered
5 members of the majority party and one member shall be a registered
6 member of the minority party. One shall be appointed by the Speaker
7 of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, one shall be appointed by
8 the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate and one
9 appointed jointly by the Speaker and President Pro Tempore. A
10 member of the Article V Convention Committee may not be a member of
11 the delegation. The duties of the Article V Convention Committee
12 and their appointing authority or authorities include:

13 1. Monitoring the delegation to determine if it is following
14 legislative instructions and obeying convention rules;

15 2. Advising the delegation on the Legislature's position on
16 issues before the convention;

17 3. Disciplining any commissioner who violates the oath of
18 office or instructions or is otherwise guilty of malfeasance or
19 nonfeasance. Discipline may include recall from the convention,
20 removal as a commissioner or demotion to the office of alternate
21 commissioner;

22 4. Notifying the convention that a commissioner has been
23 recalled, removed as a commissioner or demoted to the office of
24 alternate commissioner; and

1 5. Replacing any recalled commissioner so long as the
2 replacement is from the same party of the one being recalled.

3 THAT commissioners shall vote only for Article V Convention
4 rules consistent with the following principles:

5 1. The convention is convened under the authority reserved to
6 the state legislatures of the several states by Article V of the
7 Constitution of the United States;

8 2. The only participants at this convention are the several
9 states represented by their respective delegations duly selected in
10 the manner that their respective legislatures have determined;

11 3. The scope of the convention's authority is defined by
12 applications adopted by at least two-thirds of the legislatures of
13 the several states, which authority is limited to the subject of the
14 approved call of the convention. The convention has no authority to
15 propose or discuss an amendment on any other subject outside the
16 approved call of the convention by Congress;

17 4. The convention shall provide for disciplining a commissioner
18 or delegation for exceeding the scope of the convention's authority
19 by raising subjects for discussion or debate that lie outside the
20 convention's authority;

21 5. The convention shall not infringe on the respective state
22 legislatures' authority to instruct, discipline, recall and replace
23 commissioners; and
24

1 6. All voting at the convention or in a committee shall be by
2 state with each state having one vote without apportionment or
3 division. Each state legislature shall determine the internal
4 voting and quorum rules for casting the vote of its delegation.

5 THAT the provisions of this resolution shall expire on December
6 31, 2023.

7 THAT the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, immediately after
8 the passage of this resolution, shall prepare and file one copy
9 thereof with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney
10 General and transmit copies to the President and Secretary of the
11 United States Senate and to the Speaker and Clerk of the United
12 States House of Representatives, to the members of the Oklahoma
13 Congressional Delegation and to the presiding officers of each of
14 the legislative houses in the several states, requesting their
15 cooperation.

16

17 57-2-3910 TEK 2/24/2020 5:13:45 PM

18

19

20

21

22

23

24