

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SJM 8003

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As of February 14, 2017

**Brief Description:** Applying for a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution relating to fiscal restraints on the federal government, the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and terms of office for federal officials and for members of Congress.

**Sponsors:** Senators Rivers, Takko, Fortunato, Palumbo, Wilson, Angel, Walsh, Miloscia, O'Ban, Brown, Warnick, Honeyford, Rossi, Hobbs and Bailey.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** State Government: 2/15/17.

**Brief Summary of Joint Memorial**

- Requests that Congress call a constitutional convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for federal officials and members of Congress.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT

**Staff:** Samuel Brown (786-7470)

**Background:** Article V of the United States Constitution provides two ways for amending the Constitution. The first method allows Congress to propose an amendment if approved by a two-thirds vote in the House of Representatives and the Senate. The second method requires Congress to call a constitutional convention to propose amendments when requested by two-thirds of the state Legislatures.

Any amendment proposed under either method must be ratified by three-fourths of the state Legislatures in order to become an operative part of the United States Constitution.

**Summary of Joint Memorial:** The Legislature requests that Congress call a constitutional convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution. Amendments proposed at this convention shall be limited to those that impose fiscal

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restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for federal officials and members of Congress.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members:** No.