



## 2017 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 35

April 24, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives CROWLEY, VRUWINK, BROSTOFF, ANDERSON, HINTZ, SINICKI, GOYKE and ZEPNICK, cosponsored by Senator C. LARSON. Referred to Committee on Constitution and Ethics.

1     **Relating to:** Wisconsin legislative resolution to restore free and fair elections in the  
2             United States and to apply to Congress for a limited national convention for the  
3             exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that  
4             would restore balance and integrity to our elections.

5             Whereas, it was the stated intention of the framers of the Constitution of the  
6     United States of America that the Congress of the United States of America should  
7     be “dependent on the people alone” (James Madison, Federalist 52); and

8             Whereas, that dependency has evolved from a dependency on the people alone  
9     to a dependency on powerful special interests, through campaigns or through  
10    third-party groups, that has created a fundamental imbalance in our representative  
11    democracy; and

12            Whereas, Americans across the political spectrum agree that elections in the  
13    United States of America should be free from the disproportional influence of special  
14    interests and should be fair enough that any eligible citizen can be elected into office;  
15    and

1           Whereas, Article V of the U.S. Constitution requires the U.S. Congress to call  
2 a convention for proposing amendments upon application of two-thirds of the  
3 legislatures of the several states for the purpose of proposing amendments to the  
4 Constitution; and

5           Whereas, the Wisconsin legislature perceives the need for a convention in order  
6 to restore balance and integrity to our elections by proposing an amendment to the  
7 U.S. Constitution that would permanently protect elections in the United States of  
8 America by addressing issues raised by the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in  
9 *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 130 S. Ct. 876 (2010), and in related  
10 cases and events, and desires that said convention should be so limited; and

11           Whereas, the State of Wisconsin desires that the delegates to said convention  
12 shall be composed equally of individuals currently elected to state and local office,  
13 or be selected by election, in each congressional district, except that all individuals  
14 elected or appointed to federal office, now or in the past, shall be prohibited from  
15 serving as delegates to the convention; and

16           Whereas, the State of Wisconsin intends that this be a continuing application  
17 considered together with applications calling for a convention passed in the 2013-14  
18 Vermont legislature as R454, the 2013-14 California legislature as Resolution  
19 Chapter 77, the 98th Illinois general assembly as Senate Joint Resolution No. 42, the  
20 2014-15 New Jersey legislature as SCR 132, the 2015-16 Rhode Island legislature  
21 as HR 7670 and SR 2589, and all other passed, pending, and future applications, the  
22 aforementioned concerns of Wisconsin notwithstanding, until such time as  
23 two-thirds of the several states have applied for a convention and said convention  
24 is convened by Congress; now, therefore, be it

