April 19, 2016

The Honorable Karen Haas  
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol, Room H154  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Clerk,

Pursuant to section 3(c) of House Resolution 5 (114th Congress), I hereby designate the attached Memorial from the State of Florida, received by the House of Representatives in the year 2010, as purporting to be an application of the State legislature calling for a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States pursuant to Article V, and request that you make it publicly available.

Sincerely,

Bob Goodlatte  
Chairman
Senate Concurrent Resolution 10

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to call a
convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to
the Constitution of the United States to provide for a
balanced federal budget and limit the ability of
Congress to dictate to states requirements for the
expenditure of federal funds.

WHEREAS, fiscal discipline and economic integrity have been
core principles of American governance, and

WHEREAS, the American people have historically demanded the
same prudent, responsible, and intellectually honest financial
behavior from their elected representatives as ultimately
compels individual behavior, and

WHEREAS, it is the firm conviction of the Legislature of
the State of Florida that it is wrong to fund the prosperity of
the present generation by robbing future Americans of their own,
and

WHEREAS, mortgaging the birthright of our children and
grandchildren is a dangerous departure from traditional American
values which threatens to permanently undermine the strength of
our nation, and

WHEREAS, the national debt has nearly doubled over the past
8 years and Florida's share of that debt is $727 billion, more
than all Floridians make in wages and salaries in 2 years, and

WHEREAS, for the nation to pay off the entire federal debt
by 2015, Congress would have to triple the federal income taxes
of every American and devote the increase exclusively to debt
payments, and
WHEREAS, our debt is increasingly owed to the governments of foreign nations, not to the citizens of the United States; therefore, our wealth is transferred to others and will not be available to supply the means for America's future growth and prosperity, and

WHEREAS, this generation will bequeath to its children one of the world's most indebted industrial democracies, and

WHEREAS, high federal deficits cause increasingly high payments for debt interest in the future, make future borrowing more costly, reduce investment activity, and thus reduce the size of the future economy, and

WHEREAS, the people of Florida recognized the wisdom of fiscal discipline and enshrined in its State Constitution the requirement for a balanced budget to place a prudent limit on the tendencies of government, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has made fiscally responsible decisions, maintaining a balanced budget and saving the citizens of this State from crippling deficits, massive debt burdens, and bankruptcy, and

WHEREAS, we the Legislature of the State of Florida call for the Constitution of the United States to be amended to require the Federal Government to operate with fiscal responsibility, common sense, and the revenues granted to it by the people, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has for too long relied on revenue increases and borrowing against our future rather than on prudent spending decisions within the limits of current revenues, and

WHEREAS, lasting resolution of this nation's budget deficit
can be achieved only by addressing the spending habits of our Federal Government, not by increasing the tax burden under which our citizens already labor, and

WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States makes provision for amending the Constitution on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, calling a convention for proposing amendments that shall be valid to all intents and purposes if ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by Congress, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida, the House of Representatives Concurring:

That the Legislature of the State of Florida, with all due respect and great reluctance, does hereby make application to the Congress of the United States pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States to call an Article V amendments convention for the sole purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States:

(1) To achieve and maintain a balanced budget by:

(a) Requiring that such balanced budget account for all obligations of the Federal Government;

(b) Allowing flexibility in federal balanced budget requirements by providing exceptions related to exigencies such as national emergencies or threats to the nation’s security;

(c) Imposing spending limits on the Federal Government;

(d) Setting extraordinary vote requirements for new or
increased federal taxes and other revenues; and

(e) Prohibiting federal mandates on states to impose taxes or fees.

(2) To control the ability of the Congress and the various federal executive agencies to require states to expend funds by:

(a) Limiting the ability of Congress and the various federal executive agencies to pass legislation requiring states to spend money or to take actions requiring the expenditure of money unless federal funds are provided in ongoing amounts sufficient to offset the full costs of such requirements; and

(b) Limiting the ability of Congress to dictate to states requirements for the expenditure of federal funds other than such requirements as may be necessary to measure outcomes to be achieved through the expenditure of the federal funds, leaving to the several states the ability to decide how to best accomplish those outcomes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this concurrent resolution supersedes all previous memorials applying to the Congress of the United States to call a convention for the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, including Senate Memorial 234 and House Memorial 2801, both passed in 1976, and superseded, revoked, and withdrawn in 1988 by Senate Memorial 302, and that such previous memorials are hereby revoked and withdrawn, nullified, and superseded to the same effect as if they had never been passed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this concurrent resolution is revoked and withdrawn, nullified, and superseded to the same effect as if it had never been passed, and retroactive to the date of passage, if it is used for the purpose of calling a

CODING: Words struck are deletions; words underlined are additions.
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convention or used in support of conducting a convention to
amend the Constitution of the United States for any purpose
other than requiring a balanced federal budget or limiting the
ability of the Federal Government to require states to spend
money.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this concurrent
resolution be dispatched to the President of the United States
Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of
Representatives, to each member of the Florida delegation to the
United States Congress, and to the presiding officers of each
house of the several state legislatures.

Filed in Office of the Secretary of State May 5, 2010.