January 10, 2017

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 Pennsylvania, received by the House of Representatives in the year 1976, 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
I do hereby certify that the attached copies were reproduced from an original record on file at the Pennsylvania State Archives, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, in Record Group 7, Records of the General Assembly; House of Representatives; House and Senate Bills and Resolutions (series #7.10), 1975-1976, House Resolution #236. I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the said Commission to be affixed this Eighth day of April A.D. 2016.

Jonathan R. Stayer, Archivist III
Pennsylvania State Archives
In the House of Representatives,

WHEREAS, Requesting appropriate action by the Congress,

either acting by consent of two-thirds of both Houses or, upon

the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several

states, calling a Constitutional Convention to propose an

amendment to the Federal Constitution to require, with certain

exceptions, that the total of all Federal appropriations may not

exceed the total of all estimated Federal revenues in any fiscal

year.

WHEREAS, with each passing year this Nation becomes more

deeply in debt as its expenditures grossly and repeatedly exceed

available revenues, so that the public debt now exceeds hundreds

of billions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, The annual Federal budget continually demonstrates

an unwillingness or inability of both the legislative and

executive branches of the Federal Government to curtail spending

to conform to available revenues; and

WHEREAS, Unified budgets do not reflect actual spending
because of the exclusion of special outlays which are not
included in the budget nor subject to the legal public debt
limit; and

WHEREAS, Knowledgeable planning, fiscal prudence, and plain
good sense require that the budget reflect all Federal spending
and be in balance; and

WHEREAS, Believing that fiscal irresponsibility at the
Federal level, with the inflation which results from this
policy, is the greatest threat which faces our Nation, we firmly
believe that constitutional restraint is necessary to bring the
fiscal discipline needed to restore financial responsibility;

and

WHEREAS, Under Article V of the Constitution of the United
States, amendments to the Federal Constitution may be proposed
by the Congress whenever two-thirds of both Houses deem it
necessary, or on the application of the Legislatures of
two-thirds of the several states the Congress shall call a
Constitutional Convention for the purpose of proposing
amendments. We believe such action vital; therefore be it
RESOLVED, (The Senate concurring), That the General Assembly
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania proposes to the Congress of
the United States that procedures be instituted in the Congress
to add a new article to the Constitution of the United States,
and that the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania requests the Congress to prepare and submit to the
several states an amendment to the Constitution of the United
States, requiring in the absence of a national emergency that
the total of all Federal appropriations made by the Congress for
any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated
Federal revenues for that fiscal year; and be it further

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RESOLVED, That, alternatively, the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania makes application and requests that the Congress of the United States call a Constitutional Convention for the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Federal Constitution requiring in the absence of a national emergency that the total of all Federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated Federal revenues for that fiscal year; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania also proposes that the Legislatures of each of the several states comprising the United States apply to the Congress requesting the enactment of an appropriate amendment to the Federal Constitution; or requiring the Congress to call a Constitutional Convention for proposing such an amendment to the Federal Constitution; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to the members of the Congress from Pennsylvania; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives send copies of this joint resolution to the Secretary of State and presiding officers of both Houses of the Legislature of each of the other states in the Union, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. and the Secretary of the United States Senate, Washington, D. C.
HOUSE RESOLUTION
No. 236
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MAR 31 1978

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