March 18, 2022

The Honorable Cheryl L. Johnson  
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol, Room H154  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Clerk:

Pursuant to section 3(m) of House Resolution 8 (117th Congress), I hereby designate the attached Memorial from the State of New Jersey, received by the House of Representatives in the month of January 2022, as purporting to be a recission of a prior application of the state legislature calling for a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States pursuant to Article V of the Constitution, and I request that you make it publicly available electronically on the website of the Clerk. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jerrold Nadler  
Chairman
December 20, 2021

The Honorable Cheryl L. Jackson  
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives  
United States Capitol  
Room H154  
Washington, DC 20515-6601

Dear Madam Clerk:

The New Jersey General Assembly has adopted the following resolution:

Senate Concurrent Resolution - 161

In accordance with the directions contained therein, I am forwarding a copy to you.

Very truly yours,

Dana M. Burley  
Clerk of the General Assembly

Enclosure  
DMB/JVC
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 161

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Sponsored by:
Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY
District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)
Senator NIA H. GILL
District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS
Rescinds all applications previously transmitted by the New Jersey Legislature to Congress calling for constitutional convention.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/2/2021)
A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION rescinding all applications previously transmitted by the New Jersey Legislature to the Congress of the United States calling for a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the General Assembly concurring):

1. All applications previously transmitted by the New Jersey Legislature to the Congress of the United States calling for a convention for the purpose of proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution are hereby rescinded.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the Secretary of the Senate to the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to the Secretary of the United States Senate in Washington, D.C.

STATEMENT

Article V of the United States Constitution provides that on the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the States, Congress shall call a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution which will become valid when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the states or by conventions in three-fourths of the states. Although Congress has never called a convention, it has received hundreds of petitions from state legislatures over two centuries calling for conventions to address various issues. Research indicates that New Jersey has submitted at least eight such petitions. Unfortunately, legal experts disagree about both the longevity of these petitions and as to whether a convention called for a particular purpose may consider amendments beyond the scope of that purpose. There appears to be some risk, therefore, that past petitions could become part of the basis for calling a convention which addresses issues never contemplated by the legislators voting for such petitions. Accordingly, this resolution would rescind all petitions previously passed by the New Jersey Legislature in order to prevent potential misuse of those petitions.