

OPPOSE AN ARTICLE V CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

This alert was originally written by Judi Caler of [Citizen's Against an Article V Convention](#), an organization that FOAC-ILLEA has been working with closely on this issue.



Tomorrow (Monday) the Pennsylvania Legislature reconvenes after a long recess, and the Convention of States (COS) has been making a huge push to get their application passed this week. They are calling and writing the Senators. We need to do the same before Pennsylvania becomes the 20th State for COS! The COS application could be brought up as soon as Monday, or tabled & brought up another day this week.

If you haven't written to Pennsylvania Senators in the past couple of days, please do so ASAP.

Also, please call the list of Senators below, and let them know why they need to defeat this dangerous legislation!

The Legislation

Here is the biggest threat that we oppose in the Pennsylvania Senate:

SR 152 (COS)—On the Senate Calendar—Action needs to be taken by Mon., May 23 @ 1:00 pm (EDT). Can be debated & voted on Monday or tabled and brought up another day this week.

Phone Calls

Please make the following calls immediately and prioritize Sen. Kim Ward (Majority Leader), if you don't have time for the rest. Ask them to Vote "No!" on SR 152 (Convention of States).

Suggestions for Short Phone Messages:

(If you're a Republican or conservative, tell the Republicans so!)

1. We could lose our Constitution at an Art. V convention.
2. A convention could lead to eliminating our gun rights or the electoral college.
3. There's never been an Article V Convention—there could be unintended consequences.
4. Let's enforce the Constitution we have, not rewrite it!
5. No one can control the Delegates to an Article V convention.
6. For Republicans only:

The Convention of States Project is splitting the Republican party during an election year. Our conservative position on issues will mean nothing should Congress calls a convention. We'd likely lose our Constitution!

Senator:	Office phone:
Sen. Kim L. Ward* (R) Majority Leader: Ask her not to bring SR 152 to a floor vote!	(717) 787-6063
Sen. Ryan P. Aument (R)	(717) 787-4420
Sen. Lisa Baker (R)	(717) 787-7428
Sen. Camera Bartolotta (R)	(717) 787-1463
Sen. Michele Brooks (R)	(717) 787-1322
Sen. Patrick M. Browne (R)	(717) 787-1349
Sen. Christopher Gebhard (R)	(717) 787-5708
Sen. John R. Gordner (R)	(717) 787-8928
Sen. Scott E. Hutchinson (R)	(717) 787-9684
Sen. Bob Mensch (R)	(717) 787-3110
Sen. Mike Regan (R)	(717) 787-8524
Sen. Devlin Robinson (R)	(717) 787-5839
Sen. Mario M. Scavello (R)	(717) 787-6123
Sen. Robert M. Tomlinson (R)	(717) 787-5072
Sen. Elder A. Vogel Jr. (R)	(717) 787-3076
Sen. Gene Yaw (Independent)	(717) 787-3280

Talking Points for Letters

Here are some talking points that you can select from or write your own letter:

"States have no Power to Control Delegates to an Article V Convention" (flyer) shows that those who promise that State Legislators will select and control the Delegates are making stuff up! Delegates have the self-evident Right "to alter or to abolish" the existing state & federal governments. Thus no one has power over Delegates.

"Dark Money—Not the Grassroots—Is Behind the Convention of States Organizations (COS)" proves that almost 2/3 of the money driving COS's effort to apply to Congress for a constitutional convention under Article V of the US Constitution, is coming from major donors giving COS \$5,000 to \$2,000,000 over the latest 3 years of reporting available. Why are multi-millionaires and billionaires trying to get their hands on our Constitution?

The "Phony Petitions & Polls" flyer describes how the Convention of States Project (COS) showcases unverified data to deceive legislators into believing their constituents are demanding a "convention of states" in order to influence legislators' votes. But as the flyer shows, Meckler can't guarantee his signatures are valid.

The "Brilliant Men" flyer shows that James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, four US Supreme Court Justices, and other jurists and scholars warned that Delegates to an Article V convention can't be controlled.

For Republicans Only:

Republican legislators are big on gun rights in Pennsylvania, and the largest state gun rights organization there is on our side. So, the following arguments might resonate with Republicans:

"An Article V Convention Made Easy" shows why Delegates to an Article V Convention have the power to throw off the Constitution we have and set up a new one, with a new and easier mode of ratification. And COS board member Robert P. George has co-drafted a new constitution which grants massive powers to the federal gov't & imposes gun control with red flag confiscations!

Or, also on the gun-rights issue:

On Nov. 8, 2021, in a veiled threat at a legislative roundtable discussion with several Republican Senators present, Mark Meckler, President of the Convention of States Project (COS), told the leader of the largest Pennsylvania firearm rights organization, FOAC-ILLEA, that the supposed 90,000 Pennsylvanians Meckler "represents" won't support their constitutional carry legislation unless the gun group reverses its position and supports COS!

Meckler: "The question was asked, will this help pass constitutional carry? The answer is 'hell yes, it will!' Because right now, our activists are very angry with gun rights organizations in this state. And they'll not support anything that these gun organizations are doing, because they're now sworn enemies on Article V."

If that's the kind of support the Second Amendment is getting from COS, Pennsylvania mustn't let COS get their hands on our Constitution!

Also For Republicans Only:

In an article in the Federalist, Elaine Donnelly asks the question, "What makes you think that only conservatives would show up to an Article V constitutional convention?" She points out that "Participants would include not just conservative Republicans, but Democrats, RINOs, socialists, Green New Dealers, Supreme Court packers, gun controllers, police de-funders, big spenders, Roe v. Wade codifiers, teacher unions, Anthony Fauci fans, Electoral College critics, race-obsessed wokesters, social justice warriors, and peaceniks who would balance the federal budget by disbanding the Department of Defense."

Your Letter:

Please write all 49 Pennsylvania Senators and let them know why they should Vote "No" on SR 152 and any other applications asking Congress to call an Article V convention, including SR 67, SR 127, & SR 227.

Copy the addresses below as a block into "BCC," and copy your own address into the "To" box; and place the bill# & description, e.g. Art. V convention, and perhaps something catchy on the subject line. Then write the Independent and scroll for the Democrats.

Senate Republicans (28)—Dear Senator (If you're a Republican or conservative, tell the Republicans so):

dargall@pasen.gov, raument@pasen.gov, lbaker@pasen.gov, cbartolotta@pasen.gov, mbrooks@pasen.gov, pbrowne@pasen.gov, jcorman@pasen.gov, jdisanto@pasen.gov, cdush@pasen.gov, cgebhard@pasen.gov, jfunk@pasen.gov, shutchinson@pasen.gov, Wlangerholc@pasen.gov, Dlaughlin@pasen.gov, smartin@pasen.gov, dmastriano@pasen.gov, bmensch@pasen.gov, senatorkristin@pasen.gov, joepittman@verizon.net, mregan@pasen.gov, [drobinson@pasen.gov](mailto:drobison@pasen.gov), mscavello@pasen.gov, pstefano@pasen.gov, rtomlinson@pasen.gov, evogel@pasen.gov, jward@pasen.gov, kward@pasen.gov, gyaw@pasen.gov,

Senate Independent (1)—Dear Senator:

ymaiden@pasen.gov,

Now for the Democrats:

Democrats should relate to your quoting or rephrasing an idea from one of the following links. Info from the 4 flyers under "Talking Points" should work for Democrats as well:

For Democrats Only

In his Issue Brief, "[A Dangerous Adventure](#): No Safeguards Would Protect Basic Liberties from an Article V Convention,"

Georgetown Law Professor David A. Super writes:

"...nothing in Article V assures that states will get to select the delegates to an Article V convention. The actual delegates may owe their positions to Congress or to the voters in a special election, not to the state legislatures. Such delegates would have little reason to bow to the wishes of the state legislature..." (pg. 6)

Or:

"Nothing about the idea of a "Convention for proposing Amendments," as provided for in Article V, limits the scope of the convention in any way. It is common in Congress and many state legislatures for the second chamber to consider a piece of legislation to "amend" the first chamber's bill by striking everything after the enacting clause and inserting an entirely new bill. A similar approach in an Article V convention – an amendment that rewrites everything after the preamble – would do nothing to preserve the rights and liberties that the current U.S. Constitution protects..." (pg. 7)

Or:

You might quote from Chief Justice Warren Burger's [LETTER](#) to Phyllis Schlafly dated June 22, 1988:

"...[T]here is no effective way to limit or muzzle the actions of a Constitutional Convention. The Convention could make its own rules and set its own agenda...After a Convention is convened, it will be too late to stop the Convention if we don't like its agenda..."

Senate Democrats (20)—Dear Senator:

boscola@pasenate.com, brewster@pasenate.com, cappelletti@pasenate.com, senatorcollett@pasenate.com, senatorcomitta@pasenate.com, costa@pasenate.com, marty.flynn@pasenate.com, fontana@pasenate.com, senatorhaywood@pasenate.com, hughes@pasenate.com, kane@pasenate.com, senatorkearney@pasenate.com, senatormuth@pasenate.com, Senatorsantarsiero@pasenate.com, saval@pasenate.com, SenatorSchwank@pasenate.com, [sstreet@pasenate.com](mailto:ssstreet@pasenate.com), tartaglione@pasenate.com, williams@pasenate.com, SenatorLindseyWilliams@pasenate.com,

Thank you for defending our Constitution!