Date of Testimony: 2/12/2018
Bill Number: Bill SCR1611
Testimony by: Andrea Johnson

In Opposition
Testimony: Written Only

Dear Chairman Bud Estes and the members of the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs:

I am writing to voice my opposition SCR1611: Making application to the U.S. congress to call a convention of the states.

Republicans and Democrats cherish our US Constitution: for the rights it affords us, the protections it grants us, and the democracy it allows us.

It has been proven through tests and trials to be durable, and profoundly applicable to differing times, needs, and values while still allowing evolution through the amendment process.

Altering its basic premises now, when our country is arguably more divided than it has ever been, would be a grave mistake.

Republicans elevate tradition as an essential value, and often claim to believe that the United States past is preferable to the United State present. Why would they risk what has served us well for so long for fleeting political advantage?

One of the greatest lessons of American Democracy is that tides change with the times. One of the greatest attributes of the US Constitution is its ability to transcend those fluxuations by being a beacon that holds steady, clearly illuminating the rights and core values that unite Americans over the ages. Now, when special interests hold sway like never before, corporations gain more influence daily, and partisan rancor divides households, is not the time to fiddle with our foundations, and erode our protections.

Now, is the time to celebrate what unites us and return our focus to re-energizing our dedication to civil rights and ensuring ALL Americans have a voice in our process, and a share in our "general welfare" and the "blessings of liberty."

I ask that you oppose SCR1611. The way we amend the US Constitution has worked well for over 200 years and we should keep amending it in the same way.

Thank you for your consideration,

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