

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 13

## 99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BERRY.

1320H.011

1           **WHEREAS**, the framers of the Constitution of the United States of America intended  
2 that the Congress of the United States of America should be “dependent on the people alone”  
3 (James Madison, Federalist 52); and  
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5           **WHEREAS**, that dependency has evolved from a dependency on the people alone to a  
6 dependency on powerful special interests, through campaigns or third-party groups, that has  
7 created a fundamental imbalance in our representative democracy; and  
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9           **WHEREAS**, Americans across the political spectrum agree that elections in the United  
10 States of America should be free from the disproportional influence of special interests and fair  
11 enough that any citizen can be elected into office; and  
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13           **WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the State of Missouri states, “that all political power is  
14 vested in and derived from the people; that all government of right originates from the people,  
15 is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole” and the people  
16 have the exclusive right to alter their constitutions of government whenever they deem it  
17 necessary (Article I, Sections 1 &3); and  
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19           **WHEREAS**, Article V of the Constitution of the United States provides authority for a  
20 convention to be called by the Congress of the United States for the purpose of proposing  
21 amendments to the Constitution upon application of two-thirds of the Legislatures of the several  
22 states; and  
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24           **WHEREAS**, the Missouri legislature perceives the need for an amendments convention  
25 in order to restore balance and integrity to our elections by proposing an amendment to the  
26 federal Constitution that will permanently protect free and fair elections in America by  
27 addressing, inter alia, issues raised by the decision of the United States Supreme Court in  
28 *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 130 S.Ct. 876 (2010) and related cases and  
29 events, and desires that said convention should be so limited:

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31 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
32 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
33 concurring therein, hereby apply to the United States Congress to call a convention for the  
34 exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States of  
35 America that will restore free and fair elections as described herein, as soon as two-thirds of the  
36 several states have applied for a convention for a similar purpose; and

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38 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the State of Missouri desires that the delegates to said  
39 convention shall be comprised equally of individuals currently elected to state and local office,  
40 or be selected by election, in each Congressional district for the purpose of serving as delegates,  
41 through all individuals elected or appointed to federal office, now or in the past, be prohibited  
42 from serving as delegates to the convention, and intends to retain the ability to restrict or expand  
43 the power of its delegates within the limits expressed herein; and

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45 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the State of Missouri intends that this be a continuing  
46 application considered together with applications calling for a convention passed in the 2013-  
47 2014 Vermont legislature as R454, the 2013-2014 California legislature as Resolution Chapter  
48 77, the 98<sup>th</sup> Illinois General Assembly as SJR 42, the 2014-2015 New Jersey legislature as SCR  
49 132, the 2015-2016 Rhode Island legislature as HR 7670 and SR 2589, and all other passed,  
50 pending, and future applications until such time as two-thirds of the several states have applied  
51 for a convention for a similar purpose and said convention is governed by Congress; and

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53 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
54 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the  
55 President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States in his capacity as presiding  
56 officer of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,  
57 the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore  
58 of the United States Senate, to each Senator and Representative from Missouri in the Congress  
59 of the United States with the respectful request that the full and complete text of this resolution  
60 be printed in the Congressional Record, to the presiding officers of each legislative body of each  
61 of the Several states, requesting the cooperation of the states in issuing an application compelling  
62 Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments pursuant to Article V of the United  
63 States Constitution.

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