
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO RESTORE FREE AND FAIR
ELECTIONS.

1 WHEREAS, according to The Federalist No. 52 by James
2 Madison, the framers of the Constitution of the United States
3 intended that the Congress of the United States should be
4 "dependent on the people alone"; and
5

6 WHEREAS, the "dependency on the people alone" has evolved
7 into a dependency on powerful special interests that act through
8 campaigns or third-party groups, thereby creating a fundamental
9 imbalance in our representative democracy; and
10

11 WHEREAS, Americans across the political spectrum agree that
12 elections in the United States should be free from the
13 disproportional influence of special interests and fair enough
14 that any citizen can be elected into office; and
15

16 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution
17 requires Congress to convene a convention for proposing
18 amendments to the federal Constitution on the application of
19 two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of
22 Hawaii desires to restore balance and integrity to our elections
23 by proposing a federal constitutional amendment to permanently
24 protect free and fair elections in the United States by
25 addressing issues raised by the decision of the Supreme Court of
26 the United States in Citizens United v. Federal Election
27 Commission, 558 U.S. 310 (2010), and related cases and events;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, the Twenty-ninth Legislature desires that Hawaii
30 have an equal number of delegates to the Convention as any other
31 state; provided that former or current federal office holders,



1 whether elected or appointed, are not eligible to serve as
2 delegates to the Convention; and

3

4 WHEREAS, the Twenty-ninth Legislature shall retain the
5 ability to restrict or expand the authority of its delegates
6 within the limits expressed herein; and

7

8 WHEREAS, the Twenty-ninth Legislature intends that this
9 continuing application shall be considered with the applications
10 that have been adopted by the 2013-2014 Vermont Legislature, the
11 2013-2014 California Legislature, the Ninety-eighth Illinois
12 General Assembly, the 2014-2015 New Jersey Legislature, and the
13 2015-2016 Rhode Island Legislature, as well as all applications
14 that are subsequently adopted until two-thirds of the several
15 states have applied for, and Congress has convened, a convention
16 for proposing amendments to restore free and fair elections;
17 now, therefore,

18

19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
20 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
21 of 2017, the Senate concurring, that the people of the State of
22 Hawaii speaking through its Legislature, hereby submit an
23 application to the United States Congress to restore free and
24 fair elections as described herein; and

25

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
28 United States; Vice President of the United States, as presiding
29 officer of the United States Senate; President Pro Tempore of
30 the United States Senate; the Minority Leader of the United
31 States Senate; the Speaker of the United States House of
32 Representatives; the Minority Leader of the United States House
33 of Representatives; and Hawaii's Congressional delegation.

34

35

36

37

