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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO RESTORE FREE AND FAIR  
ELECTIONS BY APPLYING FOR A CONVENTION TO PROPOSE  
AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

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



1           WHEREAS, the Twenty-ninth Legislature desires that  
2 currently elected state or local office holders shall be  
3 appointed in equal numbers as the delegates to the Convention,  
4 or alternatively, delegates shall be elected from each  
5 Congressional district; provided that former or current federal  
6 office holders, whether elected or appointed, are not eligible  
7 to serve as delegates to the Convention; and  
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9           WHEREAS, the Twenty-ninth Legislature shall retain the  
10 ability to restrict or expand the authority of its delegates  
11 within the limits expressed herein; and  
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13           WHEREAS, the Twenty-ninth Legislature intends that this  
14 continuing application shall be considered with the applications  
15 for a convention that have been adopted by the 2013-2014 Vermont  
16 Legislature, the 2013-2014 California Legislature, the Ninety-  
17 eighth Illinois General Assembly, the 2014-2015 New Jersey  
18 Legislature, and the 2015-2016 Rhode Island Legislature, as well  
19 as all applications that are subsequently adopted until two-  
20 thirds of the several states have applied for, and Congress has  
21 convened, a convention for proposing amendments to restore free  
22 and fair elections; now, therefore,  
23

24           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
25 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
26 of 2017, that the people of the State of Hawaii speaking through  
27 its Legislature, and pursuant to Article V of the Constitution  
28 of the United States, hereby submit an application to the United  
29 States Congress to call a convention for the sole purpose of  
30 proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States  
31 that will restore free and fair elections as described herein,  
32 as soon as two-thirds of the several states have applied for a  
33 convention for a similar purpose; and  
34

35           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
36 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States;  
37 Vice President of the United States, as presiding officer of the  
38 United States Senate; President Pro Tempore of the United States  
39 Senate; the Minority Leader of the United States Senate; the  
40 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; the



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1 Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives;  
2 and Hawaii's Congressional delegation.

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OFFERED BY:

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