

Resolution Statement

As the author and sponsor of this resolution I rise in support of the resolution and without objection would like to read a prepared statement in support.

At the close of the Constitutional Convention in 1787, Benjamin Franklin was asked what they had given us, a Republic or a Monarchy? His response was "A Republic, if you can keep it". We have come to a point in this country where the operation of Congress is unrecognizable when compared to Article 1 Section 8 of the Constitution, also known as the Enumerated Powers of Congress.

The Supreme Court allows Congress to overstep its bounds and regulate areas where it was never intended to have power. Perversions of the Commerce Clause and the General Welfare Clause have allowed for monstrosities like the Affordable Care Act, Common Core, and the ability of Congress to regulate and tax nearly every aspect of a citizen's life.

Michael Farris, a Constitutional Attorney who has argued and won many cases in front of the Supreme Court, believes that, if Congress were held to the enumerated powers, then the national debt would be near zero, the size of the Federal Government would be reduced by 60%, and Federal taxes would be reduced. The real crux of the matter is, who decides? Who decides how our children are educated, who decides our health care options, who decides how our crops are grown, or who decides how your house is built? The founders envisioned that our school boards, cities, and States would decide these issues as necessary.

The Convention of States Project is designed to reduce the power and scope of the Federal Government by imposing term limits, fiscal restraints, and addressing federal overreach. I believe that this is in keeping with the number one purpose of the American Legion, to **support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America**. I ask for your support in passing this resolution.

With that I make myself available to the committee and members to answer any questions you may have.

Thank You