



# CONVENTION of STATES ACTION

## NORTH CAROLINA

July 31, 2024

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



We're already halfway through the summer! I hope you're having a great season and taking time to appreciate the little things amidst our important work! I spent a week in Minnesota with the family and enjoyed watching my daughter jump off a boat a million times!

I want to make sure that our communications team gets credit for their continuous drive and coming up with new ideas. It is not easy staying focused while so much chaos is happening at the national level. But as I said earlier, it is important to appreciate all of our moments.

I've been committed to keeping you, our dedicated volunteers, well-informed. This month's newsletter aims to better inform, organize, and set goals for you. Our goal is for you to be the most knowledgeable volunteer, enabling you to share this information effectively.

One of the crucial task is writing Letters to the Editor regarding HJR 235. Follow this [link](#) for instructions on how to get involved. Below the highlighted article will include an article that was recently published.

The team has been working on a comprehensive FAQ page. Bookmark it to stay updated on all the important information in North Carolina. You can find it [here](#), and it will be continuously updated and improved.

I and many others are very excited to see Jeff Groh back in action. He claimed he was going to ease back into things but as I suspected; he has been going full steam. He weekly maintains the [volunteer resource page](#) (its also included in the FAQ page).

Last, but not least; it is important to continue the fight daily. So make sure you are following our socials which can be found [here](#) (also on the FAQ page-see the theme here?)

As always, the comms team is here to help you be the most successful grassroot individual.

Jesse Jensen, SCC

### In this newsletter you can expect:

State Comms Message

Highlighted Blog

Trivia

Volunteer Spotlight

Take Action

Latest News

## Why North Carolina Needs Engaged Volunteers

The overall mission of Convention of States is to build the largest conservative grassroots army ever assembled in this country, and with over 5M supporters we are making significant progress. Training that army to be citizen activists at all levels of government including local, state and national, is how we can save this country long-term.

A goal within that larger mission is to utilize Article V of the U.S. Constitution to convene a Convention of the States, a tool our Founders provided that empowers We the People to bypass Congress to propose amendments that Congress will never do on their own.

The process requires 34 state legislatures to pass a resolution that defines the scope of the convention, with 19 states having done so. We are more than halfway there.

The scope would constrain the convention to propose amendments focused on term limits, imposing fiscal restraints and limiting the power and jurisdiction of the federal government. At its most basic level, it's about federalism and returning power to the states where it belongs.

The North Carolina COS resolution [HJR 235](#) passed the NC House on March 8, 2023 with strong Republican support. The Senate has refused to act. We have one more opportunity after the November election for our Senators to do the right thing for future generations.

In recent months, we have seen a steady decline in the engagement of our volunteers. Why is that happening and why is that important anyway? Those are the questions raised in this article.

One reason may be that with the November election looming and Trump expected to be swept back into office, with leftist and progressive policies under siege everywhere and recent SCOTUS rulings that uphold an originalist interpretation of the constitution, many believe that "all is well". That our worldview is winning.

This could not be further from the truth. The progressive left driven by a hatred of the American experiment and our historical core values, a belief in the "living constitution", and dominated by Marxists, will never stop. They are relentless and we must be as well. Our effort transcends any one president or election cycle. It transcends any one SCOTUS decision.

When I speak at events and promote our effort, I often explain that when I put on my "political party hat", it is absolutely about electing good candidates. But when I put on my "COS hat", it's about not trusting either political party to solve the big problems.

Both parties are vested in big government no matter what they say. The unsustainable +34T in debt and debt/GDP ratio of more than 100% is an example. It is up to us to rein in the federal government. History says they will never do that on their own.

Another reason for a downturn here in North Carolina in volunteer engagement may be frustration with the process and not passing the COS resolution this past legislative session.

I share that frustration having dedicated, just like many others, significant time and resources in all four legislative sessions spanning almost 8 years attempting to pass the COS resolution in North Carolina.

But we cannot give up and go away. Those who oppose us in the North Carolina General Assembly believe that will eventually happen. We can wring our hands and complain all we want, but that accomplishes nothing.

We must stay engaged for the future of our federal republican form of government. It is about future generations, not us. There is no other choice.

John Q. Adams was the 6th president of the U.S. After he left office, he is the only former president to return to Congress. Why? Because he was passionate about ending slavery. Congress got so fed up with him, that they passed a gag order prohibiting him from talking about slavery.

Leaving Congress one day, he was confronted by the media and asked why he continued to fight. He simply said: "Duty is ours, results are God's".

He never saw the fruits of his labor, dying on House floor. But he mentored a young Illinois Senator, Abraham Lincoln, who went on to be President and fulfill Adams' vision to end slavery.

Many of us working to pass a COS resolution here and across the country may never see the fruits of our labor. But I always go back to the John Q. Adams story for inspiration.

There are many ways we need our grassroots now. First, if you have not signed the [petition](#), then that is the first step to support this effort.

We also need you to engage with your local legislators and candidates right now. [Here is a link](#) that provides information on how to do that.

Now is the time. You cannot sit on the sidelines. If not you, then who?



## Volunteer Spotlight

Name: Melissa Martin

Role(s): DC (also covers additional District with no DC), TP, GOTV

Narrative: Melissa submitted 304 Action Reports in 2023, including:

- Held 24 events in her district or nearby districts.
- Sent 102 emails to legislators.
- Participated in 5 petition drives which collected over 400 petitions.
- Sent 20 handwritten letters to legislators.
- Natural networker; spoke with 11 regional candidates.
- Presented COS at 5 GOP and Conservative events.
- Very active Social Media Warrior on FB and Twitter, sharing COS blogs and news articles as well as her own COS posts.

Made 474 TP calls, including recognition from OH for being among its top 10 callers. One of three State volunteers invited to lunch with Mark Meckler because of her participation in TP, block walking and COSGOTV texting. Has large magnetic COS signs affixed to her car. Always carries social media cards to engage with people. Very collaborative, informing nearby districts, within and outside her region, of upcoming events to ensure everyone gets involved. In constant communication with her RC, as well as her District Volunteers. Makes quarterly plan outlining goals for upcoming meetings and events. One of the most prolific writers on Slack, both in State and National DC workspaces. Lastly, Melissa is always ready to help out at any event in NC, traveling to wherever she is needed to help promote COS.

-Susan Bertuccelli  
-HD 64



## Volunteer Spotlight

Name: Kate West

Role(s): RC, Charlotte HD112

What I know is that she is willing to drive everywhere in her region and state frequently to assist and promote COS. And she does it in such an engaging, friendly, and open way. She defines being supportive. And she is always eager to learn more.

Suzanne McPherson  
-HD110



## Volunteer Spotlight

Regional Captain and State Director Team Member Jeff Groh has been quite the asset to NC COS. He fills about every role available within COSA, always striving to do his part and more.

Over the years he has acquired just under 93,000 activist points which reflects only a portion of the time he's put into this effort. Those who work with Jeff in his region have expressed their gratitude for his support, friendship and leadership.

We are blessed by Jeff and look forward to many more years of serving together to see our nation restored for the generations to come.

Vanessa Paulsen  
-State Director



**Military History Trivia:** What was the longest war in US History?

**Constitutional History:** Which future U.S. president's correspondence helped establish the consensus for calling a constitutional convention?

**COS History:** What was the very first US State to pass a Convention of States application?

**American History in General:** What Track and Field Star won 4 gold medals in 1936 Olympics in Berlin



**WE NEED TO STOP WASTEFUL SPENDING**

**34,000,000,000,000 REASONS TO CALL YOUR STATE SENATOR**

**COS NOW!**



National is helping North Carolina make Letters To Editors to be published in newspapers. If this is something you are interested in let us know.

Here is an example file if you are interested in helping spread the word of COS. [LINK](#)

Here is a letter that was also used as a blog. [LINK](#)

Still want to help but don't want to write a letter? That is OK! Take action by sharing this letter to Todd Johnson! [LINK](#)

