

By Senator Evers

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1 Senate Concurrent Resolution

2 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to call a
3 convention for the purpose of proposing an amendment
4 to the Constitution of the United States to provide
5 that every law enacted by Congress shall embrace only
6 one subject that shall be clearly expressed in its
7 title.

8
9 WHEREAS, each measure before a legislative body should pass
10 on its own merits without depending on legislative support for
11 other unrelated measures to achieve the required number of votes
12 for passage, and

13 WHEREAS, a single-subject constitutional provision
14 addresses this concern by prohibiting a legislative body from
15 enacting a law that embraces more than one subject, and

16 WHEREAS, 42 of the 50 states, including Florida, have a
17 single-subject provision in their respective state
18 constitutions, and the legislatures and citizens of these states
19 have benefited from a single-subject requirement, and

20 WHEREAS, the United States Constitution is the supreme law
21 of the United States of America, touching the lives of every
22 citizen in the several states, but is missing this important
23 provision, and

24 WHEREAS, our great country is deep in debt and Congress is
25 currently searching for a solution, and

26 WHEREAS, a federal single-subject amendment would provide
27 the means to limit pork barrel spending, control the phenomenon
28 of legislating through riders, limit omnibus legislation
29 produced by logrolling, prevent public surprise, and increase

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30 the institutional accountability of Congress and its members,
31 and

32 WHEREAS, it is Florida's hope and desire that Congress will
33 be able to conduct its business in a more productive, efficient,
34 transparent, and less acrimonious way with a single-subject
35 requirement, and

36 WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States
37 makes provision for amending the Constitution on the application
38 of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, calling
39 a convention for proposing amendments that shall be valid to all
40 intents and purposes if ratified by the legislatures of three-
41 fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three-
42 fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification
43 may be proposed by Congress, NOW, THEREFORE,

44
45 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida, the House
46 of Representatives Concurring:

47
48 That the Legislature of the State of Florida, with all due
49 respect, does hereby make application to the Congress of the
50 United States pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the
51 United States to call a convention for the sole purpose of
52 proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States
53 to provide:

54 Congress shall pass no bill, and no bill shall become
55 law, which embraces more than one subject, that
56 subject to be clearly expressed in the bill's title.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this concurrent resolution
58 supersedes all previous memorials and concurrent resolutions

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59 applying to the Congress of the United States to call a
60 convention for the purpose of proposing a single-subject
61 amendment to the Constitution of the United States and that such
62 previous memorials and resolutions are hereby revoked and
63 withdrawn, nullified, and superseded to the same effect as if
64 they had never been passed.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this concurrent resolution is
66 revoked and withdrawn, nullified, and superseded to the same
67 effect as if it had never been passed, and retroactive to the
68 date of passage, if it is used for the purpose of calling a
69 convention or used in support of conducting a convention to
70 amend the Constitution of the United States for any purpose
71 other than requiring that every law enacted by Congress embrace
72 only one subject which shall be clearly expressed in the title.

73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this concurrent
74 resolution be dispatched to the President of the United States
75 Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of
76 Representatives, to each member of the Florida delegation to the
77 United States Congress, and to the presiding officers of each
78 house of the several state legislatures.