

FRIENDS OF THE ARTICLE V CONVENTION

One Friend At A Time . . .



Was the 2017 Arizona Application a “Convention of States” Application or Not?

The 2017 Arizona Application, recently passed by the Arizona Legislature was not a “convention of states” application despite the claims of the political group, “Convention of States.” [House Concurrent Resolution 2010](#) states it is “A concurrent resolution applying to the Congress of the United States to call a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States.” Thus it is an application for “a convention for proposing amendments” or Article V Convention rather than a “Convention of States” application.

The Supreme Court has determined in [Hawke v Smith, 253 U.S. 221 \(1920\)](#) that conventions as described in the Constitution are “deliberative assemblages **representative of the people**, which it was assumed would voice **the will of the people.**”

The political group Convention of States Project believes the people have no place in the amendment process and have [helped enact laws in several states](#) which preclude electoral selection of delegates by the people **to represent them** at the convention. Instead Convention of States believes **an oligarchy made up of a few select state legislators** should make all decisions at the convention through the use of **felony arrest for delegates** should they fail to follow the oligarchy’s “instructions.”

Clearly the interpretation of the Supreme Court that a “convention for proposing amendments” **representative of the people** and a “Convention of States” **controlled by an oligarchy composed of a few select state legislators** are not the same thing. As the Arizona State Legislature applied for a “convention for proposing amendments” instead of a “Convention of States” it clearly is not an application for a “Convention of States.”