

Testimony for the House Government & Veterans Affairs Committee

House Concurrent Resolution 3033

Andrew Alexis Varvel

February 19, 2021

Chairman Kasper and Members of the Committee:

My name is Andrew Alexis Varvel. I live in Bismarck.

I am here to oppose House Concurrent Resolution 3033.

We do not need a national constitutional convention, and we should not have one.

Anybody who thinks they can set the agenda for such a convention is mistaken. The risk of a runaway convention is real. You may want term limits. Somebody else may want to abolish the Electoral College, abolish the United States Senate, impose a regime of “woke” apartheid, and enshrine a right to an abortion into the actual text of the Constitution – and not merely one of those penumbras that inevitably becomes a subject of mystical interpretation by the United States Supreme Court.

The requirement of thirty-eight states to ratify a new constitution may sound good, but given the power of social media companies to manipulate our political system, there is a good chance that those who oppose “woke” reform would get accused of some form of bigotry and by extension risk losing their jobs – or states losing federal money.

I don't want to take that chance.

I would be happy with either of two alternatives. One would be to simply provide this resolution with a **DO NOT PASS** recommendation. The other, better, alternative would be for you to amend this resolution to rescind **all** state requests to invoke Article V of the United States Constitution to create any sort of national constitutional convention – for any reason and for any purpose. This is a risk that we should not take.

Thank you.

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