

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1289

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO AN APPLICATION OF THE STATE OF IDAHO UNDER ARTICLE V OF THE UNITED
2 STATES CONSTITUTION FOR A CONVENTION FOR PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE
3 UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT; AMENDING TI-
4 TLE 34, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW CHAPTER 16, TITLE 34, IDAHO
5 CODE, TO DEFINE TERMS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES TO
6 THE CONVENTION, TO PROVIDE FOR THE INSTRUCTION TO, SCOPE AND LIMITATION
7 OF AUTHORITY OF, AND COMPENSATION OF SAID DELEGATES, TO PROVIDE DUTIES
8 OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND TO PROVIDE A CITATION.
9

10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

11 SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. The Legislature declares that:

12 (1) If Congress convenes a convention after receiving similar Applica-
13 tions from the legislatures of 34 states, it is the desire of the Legislature
14 of the State of Idaho to have an orderly convention and to have the will of
15 this Legislature fulfilled by its delegates.

16 (2) The Legislature of the State of Idaho desires that its delegates to
17 an Article V convention be prohibited from approving any proposed amendments
18 outside of the subject matters set forth in Idaho's Application for said con-
19 vention thereby avoiding any possibility of a "runaway convention."

20 (3) To this end the Legislature enacts the Uniform Limited Convention
21 Act.

22 SECTION 2. That Title 34, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended
23 by the addition thereto of a NEW CHAPTER, to be known and designated as Chap-
24 ter 16, Title 34, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

25 CHAPTER 16

26 UNIFORM LIMITED CONVENTION ACT

27 34-1601. DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this chapter:

28 (1) "Scope of the applications" means the specific subject matters or
29 topics for proposed amendment(s) to the United States constitution, set
30 forth in the aggregate applications relied on by congress to call an article
31 V convention.

32 (2) "Article V convention" means a convention of the states for consid-
33 ering specific amendments applied for by the states and called by congress
34 under the authority of article V of the United States constitution.

35 (3) "Application" means a legislative resolution of any state making
36 application under article V of the United States constitution to congress to
37 call a convention for the sole purpose of considering specific amendments to
38 the United States constitution.

39 (4) "Unauthorized amendment" means any amendment proposed by an arti-
40 cle V convention that is not within the scope of an Idaho application.

1 (5) "Delegate" means an individual elected or appointed to serve as a
2 delegate from Idaho to an article V convention.

3 34-1602. INSTRUCTION TO DELEGATES AND LIMITATIONS ON AUTHOR-
4 ITY. (1) No delegate, while serving as a delegate from Idaho to an article
5 V convention, shall vote to consider, approve or propose an unauthorized
6 amendment.

7 (2) As a condition of being eligible for consideration or selection as
8 a delegate or alternate delegate, each delegate and alternate delegate shall
9 take the following oath: "I do solemnly swear or affirm that I accept and
10 will act according to the limits of authority provided by the Uniform Limited
11 Convention Act, Chapter 16, Title 34, Idaho Code, and that I will not vote
12 to consider, approve or propose any unauthorized amendment unless otherwise
13 directed by an adopted concurrent resolution by the legislature of the state
14 of Idaho during the convention. I understand and accept that violating this
15 oath will subject me to immediate revocation of my credentials to serve as a
16 delegate."

17 (3) No individual shall be qualified as a candidate for the position of
18 delegate prior to taking the oath specified in subsection (2) of this sec-
19 tion.

20 (4) Any vote taken by a delegate at an article V convention in violation
21 of subsection (1) of this section shall be null and void. The credentials of
22 any delegate casting such vote shall be automatically revoked and said dele-
23 gate shall be immediately disqualified from further service.

24 (5) It shall be the duty of every delegate to advocate that the article V
25 convention adopt, as its first act or at the earliest opportunity, rules that
26 shall include, and be consistent with the following:

27 (a) The sole and exclusive purpose of the article V convention shall be
28 to consider only those specific amendments that are within the scope of
29 the applications; and

30 (b) Following a final vote on all motions to consider the amendments
31 within the scope of the applications, the business of the convention
32 shall immediately terminate and the article V convention shall dis-
33 solve.

34 (6) The delegates may debate against and shall reject any unauthorized
35 amendment proposed by the article V convention unless otherwise directed by
36 an adopted concurrent resolution by the legislature of the state of Idaho
37 during the convention.

38 (7) The delegates to the article V convention from the state of Idaho
39 shall be seven (7) in number.

40 (a) The delegates shall elect a chairman and a secretary of the delega-
41 tion from among their number.

42 (b) The vote of two thirds (2/3) of the members of the delegation shall
43 be required in order to constitute the vote of the delegation on any mat-
44 ter.

45 (c) The delegates shall be determined in the following manner:

46 (i) Two (2) delegates shall be appointed by the house of represen-
47 tatives;

48 (ii) Two (2) delegates shall be appointed by the senate; and

1 (iii) Three (3) delegates shall be appointed jointly by the house
2 of representatives and the senate.

3 (d) The speaker of the house of representatives and the senate presi-
4 dent pro tempore are hereby authorized and empowered to jointly fill any
5 vacancy on the delegation with an alternate as provided in paragraph (e)
6 of this subsection, or by joint appointment if no alternate designated
7 pursuant to paragraph (e) of this subsection is available.

8 (e) The legislature shall select alternates to serve as delegates to
9 the article V convention in the event a delegate becomes unable or in-
10 eligible to serve. If a delegate becomes ineligible to serve pursuant
11 to the provisions of section 34-1602(4), Idaho Code, the alternate del-
12 egate shall immediately be entitled to replace the ineligible delegate
13 and the secretary of state shall immediately certify the alternate del-
14 egate and inform the officers of the article V convention that the cer-
15 tification of the ineligible delegate is revoked.

16 (8) The state of Idaho shall compensate delegates in accordance with
17 the provisions of section 59-509(p), Idaho Code. The delegates may accept
18 no other compensation for serving as a delegate except that provided by the
19 state for the article V convention.

20 34-1603. CERTIFICATION OF SECRETARY OF STATE. The secretary of state
21 shall certify in writing the selection of each delegate to the article V con-
22 vention after said delegate takes the oath contained in section 34-1602(2),
23 Idaho Code. The secretary of state shall provide a copy of the certification
24 to each delegate and to the officers of the article V convention. No delegate
25 shall have the authority to vote or otherwise serve at the article V conven-
26 tion without being so certified.

27 34-1604. CITATION. This chapter may be cited as the "Uniform Limited
28 Convention Act."