

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2018)

3 HOUSE JOINT
4 RESOLUTION 1035

By: Rosecrants

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7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Joint Resolution calling for a convention to
9 propose a free and fair elections amendment pursuant
10 to the provisions of Article V of the United States
11 Constitution; and directing distribution.

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13 WHEREAS, the framers of the Constitution of the United States of
14 America intended that the Congress of the United States of America
15 should be "dependent on the people alone" (James Madison, Federalist
16 52); and

17 WHEREAS, that dependency has evolved from a dependency on the
18 people alone to a dependency on powerful special interests, through
19 campaigns or third-party groups, that has created a fundamental
20 imbalance in our representative democracy; and

21 WHEREAS, Americans across the political spectrum agree that
22 elections in the United States of America should be free from the
23 disproportional influence of special interests and fair enough that
24 any citizen can be elected into office; and

1 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution requires
2 Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments to the
3 federal Constitution on the application of two-thirds (2/3) of the
4 legislatures of the several states; and

5 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Legislature perceives the need for an
6 amendments convention in order to restore balance and integrity to
7 our elections by proposing an amendment to the federal Constitution
8 that will permanently protect free and fair elections in America by
9 addressing, inter alia, issues raised by the decisions of the United
10 States Supreme Court in *Citizens United v. Federal Election*
11 *Commission* (2010) 130 S.Ct. 876 and related cases and events, and
12 desires that said convention should be so limited; and

13 WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma desires that the delegates to
14 said convention shall be comprised equally of individuals currently
15 elected to state and local office, or be selected by election, in
16 each Congressional district for the purpose of serving as delegates,
17 though all individuals elected or appointed to federal office, now
18 or in the past, be prohibited from serving as delegates to the
19 convention, and intends to retain the ability to restrict or expand
20 the power of its delegates within the limits expressed herein; and

21 WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma intends that this be a continuing
22 application considered together with applications calling for a
23 convention passed in the 2013-2014 Vermont Legislature as R454, the
24 2013-2014 California Legislature as Resolution Chapter 77, the 98th

1 Illinois General Assembly as SJR 42, the 2014-2015 New Jersey
2 Legislature as SCR 132, the 2015-2016 Rhode Island Legislature as HR
3 7670 and SR 2589, and all other passed, pending and future
4 applications until such time as two-thirds (2/3) of the several
5 states have applied for a convention for a similar purpose and said
6 convention is convened by Congress.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
8 AND THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 56TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

9 SECTION 1. That the people of the State of Oklahoma speaking
10 through its Legislature, and pursuant to Article V of the United
11 States Constitution, hereby apply to the United States Congress to
12 call a convention for the exclusive purpose of proposing an
13 amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America that
14 will restore free and fair elections as described herein, as soon as
15 two-thirds (2/3) of the several states have applied for a convention
16 for a similar purpose; and

17 SECTION 2. That the Chief Clerk of the Oklahoma House of
18 Representatives transmit copies of this resolution to the President
19 of the United States, the Vice President of the United States in his
20 capacity as presiding officer of the United States Senate, the
21 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority
22 Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the President
23 Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, to each Senator and
24 Representative from Oklahoma in the Congress of the United States

1 with the respectful request that the full and complete text of this
2 resolution be printed in the Congressional Record, to the presiding
3 officers of each legislative body of each of the several states,
4 requesting the cooperation of the states in issuing an application
5 compelling Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments
6 pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution.

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8 56-2-8718 LRB 01/03/18

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