

HO #1 Shirley Meier

January 17, 2025

Dear Honorable Members of the Senate State Affairs Committee,

I am writing to you today to ask for your support to vote to pass SJR 502 which is the resolution to pass an Article V Convention of States for South Dakota. I am in total support of this resolution as it is the only way that the citizens of this country can gain back our voice and control of how the federal government is governed. Our founding fathers knew that this possibility existed when they drafted our Constitution, and were afraid that the federal government would get too big and too powerful, so they included this provision for a way to take back the power to the people.

I want to encourage and recommend that this resolution be passed from your committee to continue this process to get it passed by our state legislature. We need to have term limits, more fiscal responsibility, and get back the people's voice in the way our country is governed.

I, along with many of my friends in South Dakota, want you all to support and vote 'yes' to get this process started.

Thank you for all you do to serve our great state. God Bless you all.

Sincerely,

Burdette J. Posey (Boone)

605-929-8711

20097 464<sup>th</sup> Ave

Bruce, SD 57220

To the Committee

The Career politicians who direct our Federal Govt. have never had a job, never run a business and know nothing about balancing a budget. Some have been there 50+ years and need to go

The Committee is made up of people that have term limits. You are closely connected to the people you represent. You advocate for them because you serve the people & not any special interest group. We need the same kind of people in our Federal Govt.

Article V-COS will bring federal politicians back to the same loyalty to the voters that State politicians already have.

LeRoy Ellis  
Dist 26 -

Shirley,

thank for your time and all the work you do.

LeRoy Ellis

senate  
House



Outlook

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**Re: INFO on Committee Hearing Date**

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**From** Michele Rogers <michelerogers02@hotmail.com>

**Date** Tue 1/14/2025 5:32 PM

**To** Shirlee J Meier SD <shirleej.meier@cosaction.com>

Shirlee,

I will not be able to attend due to a previously scheduled appointment. Feel free to enter the following if you wish.

I support the Convention of States because we need to clean up Congress and it will not happen until they have term limits. It is unfortunate that we have allowed these few to have this much power. It has caused corruption within our government. We have term limits for governors and presidents, but not congress. What were "We the People" thinking? It was a mistake not to include Congress in the 22nd amendment. Congress has abused their power by blocking all efforts of term limits because they do not want to relinquish their power. Members of Congress were entrusted to be public servants, but unfortunately, they have evolved into career politicians. Many surveys have been conducted regarding term limits and the results are consistently overwhelmingly in favor of them. "We the People" should be allowed a voice, but congress doesn't want to allow that, again because they are self-serving.

Michele R. Rogers

Retired Air Force

*Hill City, SD.*

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**From:** Shirlee J Meier SD <shirleej.meier@cosaction.com>

**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 1:19 PM

**To:** Michele Rogers <michelerogers02@hotmail.com>

**Subject:** INFO on Committee Hearing Date

Hi Michele,

**Testimony Before SD Senate Committee on State Affairs**  
**January 17, 2025**

My name is Dennis Phillips. I am speaking in support of SJR 502.

My wife and I moved to Rapid City from Colorado in 2022. We saw that South Dakota was honoring the original Constitution, unlike Colorado. We believed our move was Divinely confirmed when we learned that South Dakota's motto was "under God the people rule".

Unfortunately, the Federal Government is failing in its responsibilities to ensure our freedoms. Since the Founding of our nation, the Federal system has expanded to 15 Executive Departments and 100s of agencies and commissions with a great deal of redundancy in their various missions. Instead of the short 7-page original Constitution, the Federal Government operates under a 3000-page document containing court-adjudicated interpretations by the Supreme Court. In addition, unelected bureaucrats in the plethora of departments and agencies have written almost 100,000 pages into the Code of Federal Regulations that control almost every aspect of our lives. Our Supreme Court, our Executive Branch, and our Congress have failed to protect the people from unconstitutional overreach. We deeply fear that our four grandchildren will not get their opportunity to pursue the American Dream as we have.

Article V gives the state legislatures the power to rein in the runaway Federal Government. South Dakota should join the 19 other states that have already passed a Convention of States resolution. In August of 2023, my wife and I signed the petition to support a Convention of States. In doing so, we have joined over 15,000 other South Dakotans who currently support a Convention of States application. In one nation-wide poll across the political spectrum, by Susquehanna Polling and Research, 88% support term limits on Congress and Federal Officials. 71% believe restrictions should be implemented on the jurisdiction and power of Federal Agencies. 68% support calling a Convention of States to propose amendments addressing these concerns. There is broad popular support for it.

We respectfully ask you to vote for moving this resolution to the Senate floor. Thank you.

Dennis R. Phillips  
6650 Wellington Dr  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
605-209-4395  
SD District 33



## In support of the Convention of States

From Catherine Dahl <muttidahl@yahoo.com>

Date Mon 1/13/2025 5:09 PM

To shirleej.meier@cosaction.com <shirleej.meier@cosaction.com>

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to inform you of our support for the convention of states. The federal government has proven time and time again in recent years that they care nothing for states' rights. They are running roughshod over all of us. First of all, they have too much power. Once in congress, the members never leave. Even if they have dementia! We need term limits. There's no excuse for politicians to gain more and more power, enrich themselves and continue to scam us. There should be mental competency tests that must be passed before being seated in Congress or the presidency. Of any age. People who have had strokes or other conditions affecting their ability to make decisions should not be allowed in office. This is our main concern. We were stunned that South Dakota hasn't joined this fight yet. Please join it now before we have no more states rights to protect.

Sincerely,

Russell and Catherine Dahl  
13795 Box Canyon Rd  
Hermosa SD 57744