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Senate District 1

TO: Alaska State Legislature State Affairs Committee: Representative Bob Lynn, Senator Bill Stoltze and Alaska Legislature Judiciary Committee: Representative Gabrielle LeDoux and Senator Lesil McGuire
FROM: Senator A.G. Crowe, Louisiana State Legislature
SUBJECT: Application for Countermand Amendment Convention and Delegate Resolution with Countermand Amendment

I am writing to testify for the passage of the two resolutions the Alaska Legislature is entertaining. The first one is the Application to Congress to call for a Countermand Amendment Convention. This is an important first resolution and step to get to the 34 States, of which I am the sponsor for the same bill here in Louisiana, which is to convene a Countermand Amendment Convention.

The second and very important resolution is the Delegate Resolution with the language of the Countermand Amendment tied directly to the resolution. This is important in that it defines the Countermand Amendment Convention as to Article 4, Section 4 which defines a Republican form of a convention (majority vote) and that all votes are one State, one Vote, as per the first "Whereas." It defines and declares the delegates are bound to any State that has this and they must vote for the approved Countermand Amendment. This maintains State Legislative Sovereignty by ensuring the State Legislature is the deliberative body and controls the Delegates from start to end. This resolution further defines the appointment of delegates, a Delegate Credential Committee to oversee the delegates, the convention rules and procedures as well as the duties of the delegates, alternate delegates and oath taken for both primary and\ alternate delegates. Lastly, it defines the text of the Countermand Amendment to be voted on by all the States at the convention.

Once 26 States or more pass this Delegate Resolution and Countermand Amendment and once the convention is called by Congress and the convention approves the language of the Countermand Amendment, then the convention is over and will have been safe, efficient and very timely. The State of Louisiana will be passing this same legislation and looks forward to working with fellow State Legislatures in Alaska to ensure that this Amendment is passed without delay and thus ratification.

Of added importance is that this same Delegate Resolution should be used for any other proposed Amendments that Alaska or other States approve. This then sets a very favorable precedence of the safety and efficiency of any and all other amendment conventions that may occur at a later date.

Sincerely,

A.G. Crowe
State Senator
State of Louisiana