



Compact for America's "Article V 2.0" Turn-Key Approach is Our Best Shot

Using an agreement among the states called an "interstate compact," the Compact for America invokes Article V of the United States Constitution to advance one or more specific constitutional amendments. An interstate compact provides the vehicle to advance constitutional amendments because it **transforms the otherwise cumbersome state-initiated amendment process under Article V into a "turn-key" operation.**

The Compact for America empowers the states to agree **in advance** to all elements of the amendment process that states control under Article V in a single enactment that can be passed in a single session. The Compact does require congressional consent to work, but such consent is achieved by simple majority passage of a congressional resolution, which consolidates everything Congress must do in the Article V process in a single enactment and in a single session. Specifically, the Compact and the counterpart congressional resolution include:

- The text of the proposed amendment (specified in the Compact);
- The Article V application to Congress (specified in the Compact);
- An interstate commission that organizes the convention (specified in the Compact);
- The convention call (specified in the congressional resolution);
- All delegate appointments and instructions (specified in the Compact);
- The convention location and rules (specified in the Compact);
- An agenda limited to the consideration of the proposed amendment (specified in the Compact);
- The ratification referral (specified in the congressional resolution);
- The ultimate ratification of the proposed amendment (specified in the Compact).

In short, the Compact for America consolidates everything Congress and the States do in the Article V process into just two overarching pieces of legislation—one congressional resolution and one interstate compact joined by thirty-eight states. It thereby dramatically **cuts the time and resources needed to achieve a state-originated constitutional amendment.** The Compact transforms the state-originated amendment process, which otherwise requires more than 100 state and congressional enactments across five or more legislative sessions, into something that can get done in a single legislative session for each member state and Congress. Rather than a legislative quest that will take ten to twenty years, the Compact can generate a constitutional amendment in as little as **one year.**

The Compact's "Article V 2.0" turn-key approach also eliminates any possibility of a "runaway convention." It compels all member state delegates to follow convention rules that limit the convention agenda to an up or down vote on the amendment it proposes and to return home if those rules fail to hold. It prohibits member states from expanding the scope of the convention, violating the convention rules, or ratifying anything other than the contemplated amendment. The Compact is **like a ballot measure directed to state legislators, governors and Congress.**

That's why Compact for America has garnered support from Congressmen David Schweikert (AZ), Paul Gosar (AZ), Lamar Smith (TX), John Culberson (TX), State Legislators Adam Kwasman (AZ), Yvette Herrell (NM), Tommy Williams (TX), Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst (TX), the Republican Liberty Caucus, Ohioans for the Liberty Amendments, States United Balanced Budget Initiative, Idaho Freedom Foundation, Kansas Policy Institute, Pelican Institute for Public Policy (LA), Wyoming Liberty Group, Hon. Judge Harold DeMoss (U.S. Court of Appeals for 5th Circuit), Kevin Gutzman, Ph.D., J.D. (Western CT State University Professor of History), Ilya Shapiro, J.D. (Cato Institute), Nick Dranias, J.D., Sven Larson, Ph.D. (Wyoming Liberty Group Economist), Byron Schlomach, Ph.D., Kyle McAlister (Questor Pipeline Company), Ron Hicks (HerdX, Inc.), Robert C. Reinarz (R.C. Reinarz & Company), Mark McKinnon (Maverick Media), and John McLaughlin (McLaughlin & Associates).

Compact for America is also what the People want. According to McLaughlin & Associates, popular support for a compact to advance constitutional amendments exceeds opposition **by more than two to one.**