

HB 2169 -- ARTICLE V CONVENTION APPOINTMENTS

SPONSOR: Trent

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 11 to 4. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 1 with 1 voting present.

This bill creates procedures to appoint commissioners to any convention called under Article V of the Constitution of the United States. After or near the time an Article V convention is called, a joint legislative committee shall be created to recommend names and submit recommended instructions for commissioners to a convention with such recommended appointments and instructions subject to approval by the General Assembly. By concurrent resolution, the General Assembly may change or supersede any action of the joint legislative committee, recall commissioners or alternates to the convention, or appoint new commissioners or alternates.

This bill is the same as HB 836 (2021).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill gives the General Assembly the necessary discretion to select and control the behavior of commissioners assigned to an Article V convention. This bill ensures the return of decision-making power back to the General Assembly. Several other states have already passed similar legislation. This bill ensures a solid framework by which commissioners may carry out the instructions of their constituents.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Trent; Gwen Wadell; Kimberly Elias; Rosendo Martinez; William Donald McDowell; Patti Siegel; Convention of States Action; and Greg Tate.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill submitted written testimony, which can be found online.

Testifying against the bill were Sierra Club Missouri Chapter; Susan Gibson; and Arnie C. Ac Dienoff.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.