

State of Kansas
House of Representatives

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Eric L. Smith
Representative, 76th District

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Chair Carpenter, Vice Chair Kessler, Ranking Member Hoye, and Esteemed Committee Members,

RE: HB2807 — Providing for the appointment of delegates to a convention under article V of the constitution of the United States and prescribing the duties and responsibilities therefor.

Honorable Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB2807, which outlines the procedures for the appointment of delegates to a convention under Article V of the Constitution of the United States. This bill is crucial in ensuring that the voice of Kansas is heard and represented effectively in any such convention.

HB2807 establishes clear guidelines for the appointment and duties of delegates, ensuring that they are elected or appointed members of the Kansas Legislature and are accountable to the people of Kansas, through the elected legislative leadership. By appointing delegates from various legislative bodies and caucuses from the majority and the minority, the bill promotes diverse membership, and ensures that different perspectives within the state are represented at the convention.

The provisions outlined in HB2807 also emphasize the importance of fidelity to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Kansas. Delegates are required to reaffirm their oath to support these documents and to faithfully execute any instructions provided by the

legislature. This ensures that the delegates act in accordance with the will of the people of Kansas and the principles enshrined in our founding documents.

Furthermore, HB2807 establishes mechanisms for accountability and oversight. Delegates can be recalled by their appointing authority or by the legislature, ensuring that they remain responsive to the interests of Kansas. The bill also prohibits delegates from considering or voting for any unauthorized amendments, with violations constituting grounds for immediate recall and potential legal action.

In addition, HB2807 provides for the delegation to propose or negotiate rules and amendments at the convention, with guidance from concurrent resolutions adopted by the legislature. This ensures that the delegation operates within the parameters set by the state legislature, and by the very nature of this process, it reflects the collective will of the people of Kansas.

Overall, HB2807 is a critical piece of legislation that safeguards the interests of Kansas in the event of an Article V convention. By establishing clear procedures, accountability measures, and guidelines for representation, this bill ensures that the voice of Kansas is heard and respected in any discussions about amending the Constitution of the United States, when the states convene.

I urge the committee to support HB2807 and advance it for the benefit of our state and its citizens. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Most respectfully,



Eric L. Smith

State Representative, House Dist. 76