## **New CRS Report on AVC Spurs Convention Interest**

## By Bill Walker

In a style somewhat reminiscent of my weekly newspaper days the Congressional Research Service has in the space of a month published two new reports on an Article V Convention. The latest report published April 11, 2014 entitled, "The Article V Convention to Propose Constitutional Amendments: Contemporary Issues for Congress" discusses the latest actions by the states and other pro-convention activists groups around the nation.

Frankly, when I started in the Article V Convention movement I used to be able to take a few hours once a week or even longer and reply to all the comments being written about a convention. Mostly I spent my time writing articles, doing research, collecting the applications and so forth—creating the basic research tools and factual information needed by anyone who was going to advocate for a convention. While I was not alone, the room certainly wasn't crowded.

Not anymore. Frankly I'd have to spend all my non-employment time trying to keep up with all the comments, articles and so forth now spread across the Internet. Fortunately a lot of people have obviously been doing their homework and have picked up the banner and they are making the comments and refuting the misstatements and so forth. So if anyone is curious why you haven't seen me as much as in the past it's not because I'm out of the race. I'm simply letting others have their turn.

Besides I'm working on something which I expect will have some effect on the entire issue of Congress calling a convention. Hopefully I'll finish it in the next few months. But, for the first time, I have to consider that my project may not be needed and Congress just might—might mind you—do the right thing after all and call the convention as mandated by the Constitution. Certainly the just released CRS Report adds weight to the argument that Congress must call.

I mentioned a second report. According to Mr. Robert Berry, a convention supporter, the <u>CRS</u> <u>published that report</u> on March 7, 2014. Mr. Berry provided no link to that report so I cannot compare it to this latest report and state what was changed in the month between the two reports.

What I can do in conclusion is urge all to read this latest report, go to the FOAVC website at <a href="www.foavc.org">www.foavc.org</a> and learn about an Article V Convention and realize, however slowly, a new day is coming. Congress appears to be moving towards calling an Article V Convention.

Update May 3, 2014: Thanks to a friend sending me the link I am now able to <u>provide a link</u> to the March 7, 2014 CRS Report.