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Every Candidate Wants You to Stay Ignorant of the Best Kept Political Secret -Ever

Virtually all Americans do not know what all the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates know. It is one of the best kept secrets - ever.

There is a piece of the U.S. Constitution that has been consistently disobeyed by the federal government during the entire history of the country. This is it in a nutshell: Article V says that if two-thirds of state legislatures request Congress for a convention to propose constitutional amendments, then Congress "shall" call such a convention.

But no such amendment convention has been created. Even though there have been over 500 such state legislature requests from all 50 states. Congress has always refused to call an Article V convention, despite the one and only specified requirement in the Constitution being fulfilled.

All of the amendments that have been made to the Constitution have been proposed by Congress, the other specified route in Article V. Clearly, Congress has never wanted to share power. And note that whether a proposed constitutional amendment is initiated by Congress or an Article V convention it faces exactly the same ratification requirements by states.

Over the years there have been countless attempts to get an Article V convention. But virtually all organized special interests on the political left and right have opposed a convention. People and groups with political power - usually because they have enough money to influence and corrupt members of Congress are afraid of an Article V convention. Why? Because once Congress calls a convention the federal government - Congress, the White House and the Supreme Court - have no control over the convention. State delegates to the convention are free to consider whatever they want.

One tactic used by the power elites to prevent an Article V convention is to relentlessly communicate this propaganda: they lie and say that such a convention would be a "runaway" convention and could destroy the stability of our government and turn the Constitution upside down or write a totally new one. Lies. In truth, all an Article V convention can do is propose amendments. They would have to be ratified by three-quarters of the states. And just imagine how much media coverage there would be of the nation's first Article V convention. No convention would ever stand a chance of proposing truly nutty amendments.

We the people have a constitutional right to an Article V convention. Why did the Framers of the Constitution put the Article V convention option in their brilliant political document? They feared that eventually the American public could lose faith in the federal government and

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that they needed some way to create laws to solve problems that the government had failed to resolve. And boy do we ever need a convention today, considering all the problems that Congress has failed to effectively address. An Article V convention is a way to strengthen American democracy, not threaten it So I keep waiting for a presidential candidate to stand up and say that the Framers were correct and that we need an Article V convention. I am especially disappointed that the long-shot candidates that many people think are rebels have not taken a public stand in favor of an Article V convention. I am thinking especially of Ron Paul, Mike Gravel and Dennis Kucinich. And how refreshing it would be if better known candidates like John McCain, John Edwards, Barack Obama, and Hillary Clinton had the guts to speak up. Remember, Congress has silently and persistently violated our sacred Constitution.

Just in case you think the Article V convention idea is insignificant I want you to know that Abraham Lincoln and Dwight D. Eisenhower both explicitly supported it. Here is what Eisenhower said: "Through their state legislatures and without regard to the federal government, the people can demand a convention to propose amendments that can and will reverse any trends they see as fatal to true representative government."

In case you are wondering, federal courts have refused to make Congress obey the Constitution.

So now you know about the best kept secret about how awful our federal government really is. If you want to learn more about the Article V convention issue go to <u>www.foavc.org</u> and become a member of The Friends of the Article V Convention. The nation's first Article V convention could do wonders in motivating millions of disgusted Americans to become politically engaged citizens.