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ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

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<http://www.house.gov/judiciary>

August 29, 2016

The Honorable Karen Haas
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol, Room H154
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Clerk,

Pursuant to section 3(c) of House Resolution 5 (114th Congress), I hereby designate the attached Memorial from the State of Massachusetts, received by the House of Representatives in the year 1974, as purporting to be an application of the State legislature calling for a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States pursuant to Article V, and request that you make it publicly available.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte
Chairman



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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Secretary
State House, Boston 02133

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John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth

March 13, 1974

RESOLUTIONS MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO CALL A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES RELATING TO THE USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR SECULAR EDUCATION.

Whereas, The General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts believes that an amendment to the Constitution of the United States will permit the several states to use more direct methods of financing secular education of children in nonpublic elementary and secondary schools and that Legislatures of the several states will pass resolutions applying to the Congress to call a convention for the purposes of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States regarding financing secular education of children; and

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States grants to the states the right to initiate constitutional change by applications from the Legislatures of two thirds of the several states to the Congress, calling for a Constitutional Convention; and

Whereas, The General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts believes it to be in the best interests of the people of the United States that such an amendment be adopted; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts respectfully applies to the Congress of the United States to call a Constitutional Convention for the sole and exclusive purpose of proposing the following amendment to the Constitution of the United States:-

"ARTICLE

Section 1. Nothing in this Constitution shall prohibit the United States or any state or any political subdivision of any state from the expenditure of public funds for the support of secular education of children in nonpublic elementary and secondary schools. Provided, however, no such expenditure of public funds shall be made for such purpose where the nonpublic elementary or secondary school discriminates in its admission policies on the basis of race, creed, color or place of national origin or in the conduct of its instruction on the basis of race, color or place of national origin.

Section 2. This Article shall be imperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission to the states."; and be it further

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Resolved, That if the Congress shall have proposed an amendment to the Constitution identical with that contained in these resolutions prior to June the first, nineteen hundred and seventy-four, this application for a convention shall no longer be of any force or effect; and be it further

Resolved, That this application shall constitute a continuing application for such convention pursuant to Article V until the Legislatures of two thirds of the states shall have made like applications and such convention shall have been called by the Congress of the United States unless previously rescinded by the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be sent forthwith by the Secretary of the Commonwealth to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States.

House of Representatives, adopted, February 26, 1974.

WALLACE C. MILLS , Clerk.

Senate, adopted in concurrence, March 4, 1974.

EDWARD B. O'NEILL , Clerk.

A true copy.

Attest:



John F. X. Davoren

JOHN F. X. DAVOREN,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.