

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3951
judiciary.house.gov

March 18, 2022

The Honorable Cheryl L. Johnson
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol, Room H154
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Clerk:

Pursuant to section 3(m) of House Resolution 8 (117th Congress), I hereby designate the attached Memorial from the State of New Jersey, received by the House of Representatives in the month of January 2022, as purporting to be a rescission of a prior application of the state legislature calling for a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States pursuant to Article V of the Constitution, and I request that you make it publicly available electronically on the website of the Clerk. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jerrold Nadler
Chairman



NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

STATE HOUSE

P.O. Box 098

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0098

(609) 847-3115

DANA M. BURLEY

Clerk of the General Assembly

December 20, 2021

The Honorable Cheryl L. Jackson
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives
United States Capitol
Room H154
Washington, DC 20515-6601

Dear Madam Clerk:

The New Jersey General Assembly has adopted the following resolution:

Senate Concurrent Resolution - 161

In accordance with the directions contained therein, I am forwarding a copy to you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dana M. Burley" followed by a stylized flourish.

Dana M. Burley

Clerk of the General Assembly

Enclosure

DMB/JVC

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 161**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

Senator NIA H. GILL

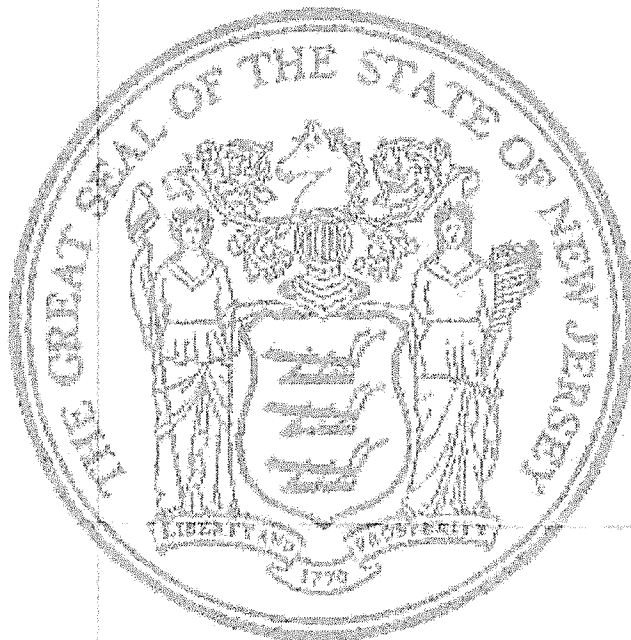
District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Rescinds all applications previously transmitted by the New Jersey Legislature to Congress calling for constitutional convention.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/2/2021)

SCR161 SWEENEY, GILL

2

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION rescinding all applications
2 previously transmitted by the New Jersey Legislature to the
3 Congress of the United States calling for a convention for the
4 purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution of the
5 United States.

6

7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the
8 General Assembly concurring):

9

10 1. All applications previously transmitted by the New Jersey
11 Legislature to the Congress of the United States calling for a
12 convention for the purpose of proposing an amendment to the
13 United States Constitution are hereby rescinded.

14

15 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
16 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the
17 Secretary of the Senate to the Clerk of the United States House of
18 Representatives and to the Secretary of the United States Senate in
19 Washington, D.C.

20

21

22

STATEMENT

23

24 Article V of the United States Constitution provides that on the
25 application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the States, Congress
26 shall call a convention for proposing amendments to the
27 Constitution which will become valid when ratified by the
28 Legislatures of three-fourths of the states or by conventions in
29 three-fourths of the states. Although Congress has never called a
30 convention, it has received hundreds of petitions from state
31 legislatures over two centuries calling for conventions to address
32 various issues.

33

34 Research indicates that New Jersey has submitted at least eight such
35 petitions. Unfortunately, legal experts disagree about both the
36 longevity of these petitions and as to whether a convention called
37 for a particular purpose may consider amendments beyond the
38 scope of that purpose. There appears to be some risk, therefore,
39 that past petitions could become part of the basis for calling a
40 convention which addresses issues never contemplated by the
41 legislators voting for such petitions. Accordingly, this resolution
42 would rescind all petitions previously passed by the New Jersey
Legislature in order to prevent potential misuse of those petitions.