

April 1, 2015

From: Art Crino
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To: Chairman Holvey and
House Rules Committee members
Re: April 1, 2015 HJM-2 Hearing

It is understandable to be concerned with the Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens United v. Federal Elections Committee*. To expect a reversal seems futile because its foundation goes back to 1819 in the Supreme Court Dartmouth College case.

The disturbing part of the Citizens United case is the magnitude of the money and power it shields. The magnitude is the result of massively ignoring the Constitution by the federal government. And we let it happen. By “we” I mean state legislatures and voting citizens.

The practice is in process of reversal. For example, in 2005 the Real ID Act called for a birth certificate or passport to get on a commercial airliner. 24 states said NO. Several states allow the manufacture of hand guns. Several allow the sale of Marijuana, Oregon included. Many states are telling their schools they do not have to use the Common Core tests. And the list goes on. The federal government does not make an issue of these topics because the publicity would expose the federal governments’ ignoring the Constitution.

The Constitution is not broken or even defective. Article 1 Section 8 is quite clear on the enumerated powers of the federal government. Can we expect the federal government to comply with a new Constitution or even an amendment? We must recognize that *an amendment does not stop usurpation!*

Professor Lawrence Lessig is one of the prominent promoters of a Constitution Convention. Going back to 1993 he wrote “...it seems time to rewrite the Constitution”. Does this not sound like a portal to a runaway Convention?

We do not want to play Russian Roulette with the U.S. Constitution.

I urge you to vote **NO** on this measure.