## CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

## SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8008

69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate February 19, 2025	CERTIFICATE
Yeas 47 Nays 1	I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is <b>SENATE JOIN</b>
President of the Senate	MEMORIAL 8008 as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereof set forth.
Passed by the House April 9, 2025 Yeas 81 Nays 16	
Speaker of the House of Representatives	Secretary

FILED

Secretary of State State of Washington

## SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8008

Passed Legislature - 2025 Regular Session

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Senators Krishnadasan, Pedersen, Hasegawa, Nobles, and Trudeau Read first time 01/14/25. Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Affairs & Elections.

- TO THE HONORABLE DONALD J. TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

  AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF

  REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF

  THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE

  OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL REGISTRAR:
- We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent and petition as follows:
- 9 WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature has made applications 10 to the United States Congress to call one or more conventions to 11 propose amendments to the United States Constitution, pursuant to 12 Article V thereof; and
- 13 WHEREAS, The legislature finds that:
- 14 (1) Since ratification, the United States Constitution has been 15 amended only 27 times;
- 16 (2) Despite civil war, robust debate, political turmoil, shifting 17 views, and uncountable political, economic, and societal problems and 18 events, our nation has not had another constitutional convention 19 since 1787;
- 20 (3) Article V of the United States Constitution provides a 21 vehicle for amending the Constitution upon application by two thirds 22 of the several states;

- 1 (4) Throughout its history, Washington has made several such applications;
  - (5) Scholars differ as to whether such applications ever expire, and whether, regardless of the scope set forth in the applications, any convention would be required to abide by such scope; and
  - (6) Wealthy interest groups could exploit decisions made by our ancestors to amend the Constitution and remove or alter our rights; and

WHEREAS, The legislature declares that:

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- (1) Although historical records maintained by the State of 10 Washington and the Library of Congress are incomplete and, in some 11 12 instances, unclear as to the final disposition of legislation passed by the Washington State Legislature to initiate a call to Congress 13 for a constitutional convention, it is reported that the Washington 14 State Legislature has passed several such calls for a constitutional 15 16 convention, including House Bill No. 90 (chapter 164, Laws of 1901), 17 calling for a plenary convention application with no limitation on subject; House Bill No. 207 (chapter 61, Laws of 1903), calling for a 18 plenary convention that specifically highlights the direct election 19 of United States senators; Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17 20 (1909), calling for a limited convention to ban polygamy in the 21 22 United States Constitution; Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17 23 (1911), calling for a limited convention to ban polygamy in the United States Constitution; and House Joint Memorial No. 1 (1963), 24 25 calling for a limited convention to prohibit federal restraint of the state initiative power to redistrict and remove federal judicial 26 oversight of redistricting; and 27
  - (2) It is unclear as a matter of constitutional law whether these calls ever expire, and current generations may now be bound by decisions made in a different time and culture; and
  - (3) The need to advance policy reforms through a constitutional convention should be debated anew, if necessary, and not bind future generations without any consideration;

NOW, THEREFORE, The Legislature of the State of Washington does hereby officially rescind, repeal, cancel, nullify, and supersede any and all prior applications by the legislature to the Congress of the United States to call a constitutional convention to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States pursuant to the terms of Article V of the Constitution of the United States, regardless of when and regardless of whether such applications were

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for a more limited convention to propose one or more amendments regarding one or more specific subjects and purposes or for a general convention to propose an unlimited number of amendments upon an unlimited number of subjects, whether or not the calls are confirmed by historical records maintained by the state or the Library of Congress.

BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, each member of Congress from the State of Washington, and the Director of the Office of the Federal Registrar; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That your Memorialists respectfully pray that this Joint Memorial be published in the Congressional Records and listed in the official tally of state legislative applications relating to calling for the United States Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution, stating definitively that the state of Washington should not be included in that number until such time as a future legislature duly passes a new application.

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