



MARCH 17, 2015

Convention Of States Trying To Unleash The Power of Citizenry

Matt Vespa

3/16/2015 7:35:00 PM - Matt Vespa

For the past few months, Mark Meckler, President for [Citizens for Self-Governance](#) and co-founder of the Tea Party Patriots, has been crisscrossing the nation in support of an initiative to change the Constitution. Yeah, I know it sounds like pie in the sky, but the movement has been gaining traction within conservative circles—and at the state level—to propose amendments to the Constitution through Article V. Amendments can be considered if two-thirds of the House or Senate agree, or if two-thirds of the legislatures request a national convention to consider new amendments. Ratification still requires three-fourths approval from the state legislatures.

Here's [the text](#):

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; provided that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

Townhall was able to speak briefly with Mr. Meckler at CPAC in February about his project, and how the process will go forward:

Mark Meckler: So the rhetorical question in America that I think is the most important question facing the country today is the question “who decides”? We have all these debates in America -- whether it's about health care or EPA regulations or whatever -- and the underlying premise in all those debates is that the decision will be made in Washington, D.C. And when we give up that premise, we lose the fight. It's like; the fight is over, why engage in the debate? Because some guy in Washington, D.C. that you don't know that doesn't care about you or your family or your situation is going to make the decision for you. When you ask Americans “who should decide?” they almost always say “me.” And it doesn't matter whether they're on the left or the right or the center. It doesn't matter what their

