

# Sustainable Liberty

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Coach Collins

By Don Clifford, guest writer

To paraphrase the Declaration of Independence, when it becomes necessary for a people to alter a course of events deemed destructive to the preservation of liberty, any available legitimate means to accomplish the task should be wholeheartedly embraced and pursued in all due earnest.

The Constitution of the United States of America has been hollowed out. It is a dead letter. Even with its myriad of checks and balances the Constitution is not ultimately self-enforcing.

But fortunately, the Founding Fathers in their great wisdom enabled “We the People” to reclaim our constitutionally secured rights in just such a situation as we now find ourselves. I refer to the provision in [Article V](#) which requires that Congress call for an amendment-making convention “on the application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several states.” This makes for an important alternative to the way in which every amendment to the Constitution has been proposed in the past —by a 2/3rds vote of both houses of Congress.

In short, the Founders have provided the American people the means to make necessary reform even when Congress has been hopelessly compromised.

The plunder of our nation never stops. Special interests today are legion, exerting grossly disproportionate influence as compared to the general interest. The scale and momentum here is so great as to render the Constitution scarcely even a speed bump in the rush to devour our national substance. Radio talk show host and author Mark Levin in his recent book, [The Liberty Amendments](#), describes in detail the need for a series of reform amendments to be proposed by a convention of the states pursuant to Article V. Some have proposed implementation of a continuous standing convention, that tyranny may be opposed even as it begins. [“Toward a Standing Article V Convention”](#) explains both the need for and positive effects of such convention, as amendments could proceed quickly to the states for ratification.

A standing convention could *institutionalize* oversight of the Constitution with a version of a permanent committee controlled by the states as an ultimate guard, always ready to act with future proposed amendments, in the spirit of eternal vigilance. Since the forces arrayed against us never cease their assault against liberty, our guard should never be let down. The same structure needed to propose the Liberty Amendments can be kept permanently in place to this end.

It is up to us to reclaim our country. It seems the good old USA is up for sale to the highest bidder. This is our country by right and we should not allow it to be sold out from under us. We must redeem her from the money changers and the sellouts in the District of Criminals. Fortunately, with Article V we have the legitimate means to accomplish this. We also have the internet from which to shout this from the proverbial rooftops. The American people must “go viral” with this constitutionally provided path to sustainable liberty. If we should lose our rights to inaction, I see no viable, non-violent way of regaining them.