



Written by [Peter Rykowski](#) on July 28, 2023

## Oregon Rescinds All Article V Convention Applications

In a victory for the U.S. Constitution, Oregon has rescinded all its applications for an [Article V Constitutional Convention](#), or Con-Con.

On July 18, Governor Tina Kotek signed House Bill 2625 ([H.B. 3625](#)) into law. The bill had previously [passed](#) the House by a 33-16 vote, and the Senate by a 25-0 vote.

H.B. 3625, once it goes into effect on September 24, rescinds all of Oregon's extant (or "live") Con-Con applications. It declares: "An application for an amendment convention under Article V of the United States Constitution that was submitted by the Legislative Assembly to Congress before the effective date of this 2023 Act is hereby withdrawn and is null and void."



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Additionally, the Legislative Assembly enacted House Joint Memorial 3 ([H.J.M. 3](#)), which formally informs Congress of Oregon's rescission of its Con-Con applications. Unlike H.B. 3625, the governor's signature was not required for H.J.M. 3's enactment.

Although Oregon [rescinded](#) a so-called [Balanced Budget Amendment](#) (BBA) application in 2000, it has multiple other Con-Con applications passed between 1864 and 1971 — in particular, H.J.R. 4, passed in 1901 — that could have potentially been [aggregated](#) with unrelated BBA applications.

Oregon's rescission prevents BBA proponents from attempting to aggregate any of these old applications with the more recent BBA applications.

### Applications in Other States Defeated, Rescinded

Oregon is not the only state to have recently rescinded or defeated Con-Con applications in the last couple of years.

In April 2022, the Illinois General Assembly enacted a [joint resolution](#) rescinding all of its previously passed Con-Con applications, including an 1861 application related to preventing the Civil War that BBA supporters had advocated aggregating with BBA applications (others included one effectively calling for [weakening](#) the Electoral College, while another called for [directly limiting](#) the First Amendment's free-speech protections). This action followed New Jersey, which in December 2021 also [rescinded](#) all its Con-Con applications.

Also, multiple new resolutions applying for an Article V Con-Con have been defeated. So far this year, [nearly all](#) such resolutions — across almost two dozen states — have failed. In Maine, [Montana](#), New Hampshire, and [Wyoming](#), majorities in the respective state legislatures voted against their respective introduced resolutions. The sole exception was Oklahoma, which passed a [resolution](#) applying for a convention to propose a [congressional term-limits](#) amendment.



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Meanwhile, the Texas Legislature failed to extend the [“sunset” period](#) for its “Convention of States” Con-Con [application](#). Barring a special session specifically for this purpose, the application is set to automatically expire in May 2025. And besides Oregon, resolutions to rescind existing Con-Con applications have been introduced in several states, [including Alabama](#).

However, much more needs to be done to safeguard the Constitution and our God-given freedoms. To secure even more victories against the Con-Con, it is necessary to inform legislators and the public [about the Constitution](#) and the [principles of liberty](#), as well as [proper solutions](#) to federal overreach such as [nullification](#). As The John Birch Society has been saying for decades, [education is the solution](#), and as Robert Welch wrote, “education is our total strategy, and truth is our only weapon.”

*To urge your state legislators to oppose resolutions applying for an Article V constitutional convention, visit The John Birch Society’s legislative alert [here](#). Also, to urge your legislators to support rescinding existing Con-Con applications, visit the JBS’s legislative alert [here](#).*



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