

**Robin L (Rees) Paulsen**  
Blue Mound, Kansas  
**In favor of SCR 1607**  
March 8, 2023

To the Honorable Chairman and Members of the Kansas Senate Committee on Federal and State affairs.

The past two years as our life has dramatically changed from the first strokes of a pen by sworn in President Biden I've firsthand witnessed the devastating actions of this current federal administration.

Our youngest of three sons working the oil industry for a large international drilling company was impacted not knowing if his time and advancement were secure and if his livelihood was secure. He's been with this company and industry over 10 years. He is still employed as his company has not been affected bringing lay offs or rig shutdowns, by the grace of God. Others our son knows in the pipeline business were. This son is a single parent and he stays abreast as to what is happening in his area of livelihood.

Our middle son works and has over 10 years for BNSF railroad now positioned in Argentine at the yard. He has been working without a contract over 5 years. This past 2022 many a days he was positioned with his union by vote to strike. He is a husband and father of three girls under the age of 5. His life with the stress posed on possible strike with no pay, agreeing do so and then at last minute this acting President said they cannot strike with the stroke of a pen. He went to sleep thinking head to work to strike. Woke to find that had been signed away. The stress and trauma it presented on his daily life and family was extremely unhealthy.

Our oldest son in his employ with an international construction company as a Project Manager has experienced deadline for completion delays due to supply chain issues that have happened and still do so as a result of this current federal administration. This places stress on him as he strives for running and completing a job under budget on time and the best of quality. That is how is as an individual.

Our sons, unfortunately at this time believe America is in their terms, "screwed," and will never again be what they knew it as growing up. That breaks my heart, but put me into action. In learning of the Convention of States I saw a way that is constitutional and available to stop the continued government overreach, out of control spending, and career politicians in our congress.

My husband and I have 4 adult children 3 with spouses and now 8 grand children, one of whom lives with us as his dad travels. I am committed to seeing this nation return to greatness not just for my husband and I now retired, but our adult children and very importantly our grandchildren and their generation of Americans. I've said, "I will not let the sun go down without seeking change," and SCR 1607 and the Convention of States action is the best way to regain our Constitutional Republic as designed by the Founding Fathers.

We dwell in a lovely small-town community with much agriculture and cattle as peoples way of life. I've heard as farmers are faced with unmeasurably high prices for fertilizer and seen their faces in disbelief affecting their families where their incomes are at stake. I've seen business owners who have questioned if they will be able to remain in operation with the slow down of customers due to rising cost of life. A small town restaurant that serves also as a gas station and mini convenience store providing our community with needs as well as a great place to see your neighbors (neighbors in our area can be 10 miles away from your dwelling) in a family

friendly environment has been hit hard in their restaurant area. They serve a special each day of the week like my time of growing up we did at home. The owner a woman middle aged and single running this great business she and her former husband birthed years ago. She also provides employment for local high school aged children where they can learn social interaction skills will all ages of people in serving, the food industry, and have fun doing it. It would be a great loss to our community if the restaurant were not able to survive with the cost of food as they serve breakfast, lunch, and, dinner. Other business operation expenses have reached record highs too just in having the doors open and lights on.

As a volunteer for the Convention of States Project, I've been heightened to the awareness of peoples feelings and thoughts on the federal government. Most all I know and encounter are frustrated and believe the federal government is out of control. Sadly, then they see no way to turn things around. That's where I get excited knowing the forefathers left us a way to regain if/ when our government became too big. Through article #5 of the Constitution we can regain our nation as intended with state independence as the voters decide what they want in their state on all levels of life.

I will continue to stay active in Convention of States Action to seek change for the better in our nation for this generation and those to follow. I humbly ask you to stand with us and pass this resolution, with your blessing and Kansas my home state, our home state can join the other nineteen States that have applied for this historic meeting of States.

In Liberty,  
Robin L (Rees) Paulsen  
District Captain of #4  
Kansas Convention of States