

February 14, 2018
SCR 1611, Hearing in Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee
John Axtell, volunteer Kansas Coordinator for Campaign for Liberty
Opposing SCR 1611, with written and oral testimony
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I am John Axtell, from Wichita. I am the volunteer Kansas coordinator for Campaign for Liberty.

Honorable Chairman, Senators:

To those who would consider supporting this resolution, I ask: If the Constitution were actually followed, what would you change?

You see, I have asked supporters of this resolution that same question, and they agree that our government would work just fine if it simply followed our current Constitution.

For example, if Washington DC followed the Constitution, we wouldn't have a \$20 trillion debt.

The founders warned us that using fiat currency – money not backed by silver or gold - will cause the kind of out-of-control spending and debt we have today. And they wrote very clear words in the Constitution requiring that all money be real money, backed by gold and silver, and not the fiat currency printed today without limit.

This requirement for sound money could not be written any more clearly, and is violated every day.

So we have a \$20 trillion debt today not because the Constitution needs more words, but because Americans haven't learned and remembered their civics lessons, and because we don't care enough to enforce clear requirements already in the Constitution.

The Constitution also requires that Congress declare war before the President can send troops into war, but that requirement hasn't been honored for over 70 years, and look at the consequences! When we declare war, we send our troops into battle with focused objectives and the full support of the American people, so they can fight like heck, win, and come back home to their families, like they did in less than four years in WWII. When we don't declare war, we send our troops into battle with one hand tied behind their back. Today, after an undeclared war has dragged on for over 15 years, suicide has reached epidemic proportions among our troops. Americans should be ashamed of sending their troops into battle without caring enough to declare war and thereby make sure they have our full support.

The solution to our problems is not to add one single word to the Constitution. Instead, we will save our nation when we decide to enforce every one of the clearly worded and fundamental limitations it already places on our government by holding our elected officials accountable for every single vote.

I urge you to therefore vote against SCR 1611.