

Georgia insight

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"She hath done what she could."

Mark, 14:8a

Fact: Elections Decide the Future, Cast an Informed Vote July 20th

The 29-question Eagle Forum Survey was sent to Georgia candidates for state offices and the U.S. House and Senate. Along with the usual data gleaned from surveys, the ones returned also revealed a, truly, disturbing fact – some candidates are unaware of the dangers of a constitutional convention (con con). The following information may help you decide which candidates would best represent you in the offices they are seeking. Candidates that are not listed on this page did not return their survey.

The conservative answer to the 29 questions is “yes.” These scored 100 %:

Jeff Chapman, for Governor
Eric Johnson, for Governor
Casey Cagle, for Lt. Governor
Ralph Hudgens, for Insurance Commissioner
Maria Sheffield, for Insurance Commissioner
John Douglas, for Public Service Commissioner
PSC Candidate Whose Signature Is Not Legible
Max Wood, for Attorney General
Sam Olens, for Attorney General
Darwin Carter, for Commissioner of Agriculture
Melvin Everson, for Commissioner of Labor
Lee Ferrell, for U.S. House Dist. 2
Victor Armendariz, for U.S. House Dist. 4
Fern Little, for U.S. House Dist. 5
Clay Cox, for U.S. House Dist. 7
Raymond McKinney, for U.S. House Dist. 12
Michael Murphy, for U.S. House Dist. 13

Ronnie Grist, for U.S. House Dist. 7, answered “no” to the following four questions:

- Will you support limiting the power of eminent domain to public works purposes only?
- Will you oppose the use of taxpayer funding for ALL abortions? (He changed the word “ALL” to “MOST.”)
- Will you require parental consent for children to be taught material contradicting family moral or religious beliefs?
- Will you require parental permission for students to join extracurricular school activities?

Otis Putnam for Governor said “no” and Ken DeLoach for U.S. House Dist. 8 skipped it:

- Will you help STOP the issuing of tax rebate checks to those who pay NO taxes?

Michael Horner for U.S. House Dist. 12 and Phil Gingrey for U.S. House Dist. 11 said “yes” on every other question, but skipped this vitally important one:

- Will you oppose a Constitutional Convention to protect the Constitution of the U.S.?

Lee Hawkins for U.S. House Dist. 9 and Larry Gause for U.S. House Dist. 4 said “no” to:

- Will you oppose a Constitutional Convention to protect the Constitution of the U.S.?

Sanford Bishop for U.S. House Dist. 2 wrote another statement, but didn’t answer this:

- Will you oppose a Constitutional Convention to protect the Constitution of the U.S.?

Sanford Bishop, also, wants tax money to fund abortions for rape, incest or life of mother.

ACTION: Duplicate and share this with your friends. Warn candidates about a con con.

Election Extra, July 2010

Once a Constitutional Convention Convenes, Delegates Set Their Own Rules

Article V of the *Constitution of the United States* is the only authorization for a constitutional convention. Article V provides two ways to amend the constitution. **The safe way:** Congress proposes amendments and states ratify them. **The dangerous way:** two-thirds (34) of the states may call for a constitutional convention that's not limited by rules, regulations or parameters. Therefore, delegates could throw out the U.S. Constitution and write an entirely new one.

If you read Article V below and answer the questions that follow, you'll get a tiny glimpse of the unlimited power delegates of a con con will have at their disposal, without restraint.

Article V

TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

"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."

– *The Constitution of the United States*



Some candidates for public office proclaim a constitutional convention (con con) as a great way to amend the U.S. Constitution. But, claims that a con con can be kept to one issue are not based on fact. The only authority for a Constitutional Convention lies within Article V, quoted above in its entirety. The ambiguity of Article V leaves innumerable unanswered questions about the conduct and outcome of a con con. After reading Article V, answer these:

Paragraph 1¹. Who presides over a con con? Must every state participate? How many states must be invited? How many delegates may attend? Must delegates be U.S. citizens? Where will a con con be held? Will it be open to the public? What rules of order will be followed? Will delegates make their own rules? Would delegates meet full-time or part-time, seven days per week? How many issues will a con con address and how long can it last? Who pays for it? May delegates be added during a con con? Are state rescissions valid?

Paragraph 2². Could delegates discard the current Constitution? Could the current U.S. form of government, a representative republic, be replaced with another form of government?

Georgia³. Since 1952, the Georgia General Assembly has passed nine con con calls, but all were rescinded in 2004 by H.B. 1343. Thus far, 12⁴ states have rescinded their calls.

¹ Paragraph 1: No one knows the answers! Article V authorizes the calling of a con con, but does not regulate it.

² Paragraph 2: The answer to both questions is, "Yes," and history verifies that fact. The only con con ever held was called under the Articles of Confederation, the governing document at that time. Delegates discarded that document and installed *The Constitution of the U.S.* Soon the ten amendments comprising the Bill of Rights was added. Since then, 16 other additions have been made, for a total of 26 times the Constitution has been safely amended WITHOUT a con con.

³ H.B. 1343 passed in 2004 and rescinded all of Georgia's proposals for a con con. The rescinded calls are as follows: **1952** Resolution Act 53 treaty powers; **1952** Resolution Act 61 limiting taxation; **1955** Resolution Act 2 independence of state schools; **1959** Resolution Act 45 independence of state schools; **1961** Senate Resolution 39 Supreme Court authority; **1965** Resolution Act 89 independence of state schools; **1967** Resolution Act 96 refunding federal taxes to states; **1976** Resolution Act 93 federal balanced budget; **1991** House Resolution 105 disrespecting U.S. flags and state flags. (Note: three separate proposals about state schools.)

⁴ Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Idaho, Utah, N. Dakota, Arizona, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Wyoming, Oklahoma