

Judi Caler
Jan. 21, 2026

Re: Written Testimony Against LD 1059

To Senator Baldacci, Chair; Representative Salisbury, Chair; and Members of the State & Local Government Committee:

Delegate control bills are deceptive, because they pretend that State Legislatures have the power to control Delegates to a convention called by Congress under Article V. They do not.

Article V states that **Congress** shall call the convention. The **Necessary & Proper Clause** of the US Constitution states that Congress has the power to make all Laws necessary to carry out its constitutional powers.

A Congressional Research Service Report dated April 11, 2014 ([pg. 4](#)) shows that Congress is well aware that it has “broad responsibilities in connection with a convention, including (1) receiving, judging, and recording state applications... (4) determining the number and selection process for its delegates... setting internal convention procedures, including formulae for allocation of votes among the states....”

Delegate control bills are useless for their stated purpose. Once the convention convenes, the Delegates, as sovereign representatives of “We the People,” would have more power than State Legislatures, Congress, & the President combined. **No one has power over Delegates!** They aren’t subject to state law, such as **LD 1059**.

Delegates to a constitutional convention called by Congress under Article V can propose any and all Amendments or exercise their plenipotentiary power to propose a new constitution with a new mode of ratification, like they did at the constitutional convention of 1787. And we won’t be as fortunate next time around!

But because delegate control bills falsely assure legislators they can prevent a runaway convention, they aren’t harmless. Maine doesn’t need a feckless bill that serves only to make legislators feel good about passing Applications that risk our Constitution.

I urge you to **OPPOSE LD 1059** and **any** delegate control bills, compacts, or Applications asking Congress to call a convention. Thank you for your consideration.