New York Assembly: Resolution Applying to Congress to Call a General Convention to Amend the Constitution 5–7 February 1789

State of New York In Assembly February 5th. 1789.

Resolved, if the Honorable the Senate concur therein that an Application be made to the Congress of the United States of America, in the Name and behalf of the Legislature of this State, in the words following, to wit.

The People of the State of New York having ratified the Constitution agreed to on the seventeenth Day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven, by the Convention then Assembled at Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania, as explained by the said Ratification in the fullest Confidence of obtaining a Revision of the said Constitution, by a general Convention; and in Confidence that certain powers in and by the said Constitution granted would not be exercised, until a Convention should have been called and Convened for proposing Amendments to the said Constitution. In Compliance therefore, with the Unanimous sense of the Convention of this State, who all united in Opinion, that such a Revision was necessary to recommend the said Constitution to the Approbation and support of a numerous Body of their Constituents; and a Majority of the Members of which conceived several Articles of the Constitution so exceptionable that nothing but such Confidence and an invincible Reluctance to Separate from our Sister States could have prevailed upon a sufficient number to Assent to it, without stipulating for previous Amendments: And from a Conviction that the Apprehensions and Discontents which those Articles occasion cannot be removed or allayed, unless an Act to revise the said Constitution, be among the first that shall be passed by the new Congress: We the Legislature of the State of New York, do in behalf of our Constituents in the most earnest and Solemn manner make this Application to the Congress, that a Convention of Deputies from the several States, be called as early as possible, with full powers to take the said Constitution into their Consideration, and to propose such Amendments thereto, as they shall find best calculated to promote our common Interests, and secure to ourselves and our latest Posterity, the great and unalienable Rights of Mankind.

By order of the Assembly
John Lansing Junr. Speaker

In Senate February 7th 1789
By Order of the Senate
Pierre Van Cortlandt Presdt.

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