

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 53

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures with respect to Federal elections.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2015

Mr. YARMUTH (for himself and Mr. COHEN) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures with respect to Federal elections.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-*
3 *thirds of each House concurring therein),* That the fol-
4 lowing article is proposed as an amendment to the Con-
5 stitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all
6 intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when
7 ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several
8 States within seven years after the date of its submission
9 for ratification:

1 “ARTICLE —

2 “SECTION 1. Financial expenditures, or in-kind
3 equivalents, with respect to a candidate for Federal office,
4 without regard to whether or not a communication ex-
5 pressly advocates the election or defeat of a specified can-
6 didate in the election, shall not constitute protected
7 speech, as guaranteed by this Constitution or any amend-
8 ment to this Constitution.

9 “SECTION 2. Congress shall have the power to enact
10 a mandatory public financing system to provide funds to
11 qualified candidates in elections for Federal office, which
12 shall be the sole source of funds raised or spent with re-
13 spect to Federal elections.

14 “SECTION 3. Congress shall have power to enforce
15 the provisions of this article by appropriate legislation.”.

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