

# HAWAII FAMILY ADVOCATES

Hawaii Family Advocates is a 501(C)(4) associate of Hawaii Family Forum

On the 2018 General Election ballot, you will be asked to vote yes or no on this question: (A blank vote is considered a no vote.)

**“Shall there be a convention to propose a revision of or amendments to the Constitution?”**

Analysis by Jim Hochberg, Esq.

## REASONS TO VOTE YES!

### ***What limitation on political power of the people is evident that could be resolved by an amendment?***

Allowing amendment to the state constitution by a citizens' petition, and acceptance by vote of the people, term limits and recall of elected officials will radically change how Hawaii is governed.. Having a ConCon is one way to ensure that the will of people are shaping the future of Hawai'i's politics. So VOTE YES and then plan to stay involved through the process.

### ***Why is this so important?***

Hawaii does not permit initiative, referendum, or recall in the state constitution.

- the initiative is a process that enables citizens to bypass their state legislature by placing proposed statutes and constitutional amendments on the ballot.
- referendum is a device which allows voters to approve or repeal an act of the Legislature.
- recall is a procedure that allows citizens to directly remove and replace a public official before the end of a term of office.

In Hawaii, a Constitutional Convention offers the people the opportunity to fully exercise their rights. Putting term limits on legislators is another good idea a Constitutional Convention can propose.

All political power of this State is inherent in the people and the responsibility for the exercise thereof rests with the people. These rights cannot endure unless the people recognize their corresponding obligations and responsibilities. When you are voting, ask yourself these questions...

- Are you a statesman or a politician?
- Can your views win election of a majority of the delegates?
- Can your views control the process by which proposals are handled?
- Can your view control how the proposals are worded?
- Can your view garner support of the voting public when the proposals are put on the ballot for approval?

If your view cannot win and control, can you live with losing valuable rights you now hold or seeing new rights created that you don't agree with?

VOTE YES because the future of faith, family and religious freedom begins with you in the ballot box.

### ***What does a ConCon look like should it pass?***

The legislature will decide the perimeters of the ConCon during a legislative session. Elected delegates (representing geographic regions of the state population) will be chosen by the voters at the next regular election unless the legislature shall provide for the election of delegates at a special election. Public hearings will be held to propose measures and vote on the language. Finally, all changes will be ratified by the voters.

### ***NEXT STEPS UPON PASSAGE OF A CONCON QUESTION:***

The community must stay engaged. Any qualified voter can run as a delegate to the ConCon. People from the faith-based community have a right and a duty to help shape the future of Hawai'i. We cannot sit on the sidelines and continue to allow imbalance in our state. Hawaii Family Advocates remains committed to the process.

The organized, voting, passionate citizens will prevail.