

Compact for America's Balanced Budget Amendment

Compact for America (CFA) is promoting legislation across the country to apply for an Article V convention for their specific Balanced Budget Amendment. Please read these articles to understand why CFA's Balanced Budget Amendment doesn't do what its proponents purport and why CFA's gimmick to form a compact between states in order to prevent a "runaway" convention won't work:

[“The plot to impose a new national sales tax or value added tax” by Publius Huldah](#)

[“How the Compact for American Threatens the Constitution” by Joe Wolverton](#)

Talking Points Against CFA's Balanced Budget Amendment:

1. CFA's BBA can't fix our spending problems because it **doesn't address the cause of the problem, i.e. Congress spends where it has no constitutional authority to spend.**
 - a. Under the Constitution we have, federal spending is limited to the enumerated powers. But for 100 years, we have ignored those limits on federal spending. CFA's BBA would legalize the present unconstitutional system where Congress spends money on whatever is put in the budget.
 - b. CFA's BBA thus fundamentally changes the Constitutional design *from* one of enumerated powers *only to* one of general and unlimited powers—because the federal government would then be authorized by the Constitution to exercise power over any object they decide to put into the budget.
2. **CFA's BBA does nothing to limit federal spending.** Section 1 permits Congress to spend as much as they take from us in taxes or **add to the national debt!** But **that's what Congress has been doing – adding to the national debt!** Sections 2 & 3 permit Congress to raise the debt whenever 26 States agree. States are already addicted to federal funds. Will 25 States agree that they don't want more federal funds?
3. Sections 5 and 6 of CFA's BBA **authorize Congress to impose a national sales tax and/or value-added tax on the American People in addition to the income tax!** This allows Congress to “balance the budget” by raising taxes to fuel its spending habit.
4. The convention called by Congress pursuant to Article V, U.S. Constitution, is the deliberative body where Amendments are proposed. But CFA's BBA purports to strip the convention of its deliberative function and convert it into a body which rubber stamps

amendments submitted by a "compact" of States. CFA's scheme thus violates Art. V, U.S. Constitution.

5. Nothing in Article V or the Constitution limits a convention to a single subject or amendment. The Delegates, as direct representatives of "We the People," cannot be controlled by federal or state law. Pretended limits are a marketing gimmick by its proponents designed to give Legislators a false sense of security and control so they will vote for a process which will be totally out of their control.

6. Any Article V convention is a bad idea because delegates to an Article V convention would have the inherent right to propose whatever changes to our Constitution they want, including abolishing our "Form of Government," rewriting or replacing our Constitution, and making the ratification process easier.