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Congressman Tom Marino Makes History to Add Single-Subject Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Washington, D.C. – In hopes of providing a simple, non-partisan solution for the way Congress conducts its business, **Congressman Tom Marino of Pennsylvania is spearheading an effort to add a 28th amendment to the United States Constitution** by introducing H.J.Res. 40 in the 114th Congress. This amendment to the U.S. Constitution would provide that no bill introduced in Congress may become law if it pertains to more than one subject, and that subject must be clearly expressed in the bill's title.

Although 41 state constitutions have single-subject requirements prohibiting unrelated provisions (often called riders) in state legislation, the U.S. Constitution has no similar provision that applies to Congress. In fact, Congress has never proposed a single-subject amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and no such effort has ever been made by a member of Congress.

“Bipartisan support for a single-subject amendment to the U. S. Constitution will serve as a catalyst to unite both political parties in Congress and to reach an agreement on a practical solution for breaking the gridlock in Washington. This can only improve the legislative process and the way Americans view Congress,” said Congressman Marino. “Adoption of this amendment will enable Congress to conduct its business in a more productive, efficient and transparent, and less acrimonious, way.”

Single Subject Amendment, a Super PAC that registered with the Federal Election Commission on March 1, 2013, is behind this important effort.

“A single-subject amendment will constitutionally eliminate riders and reduce pork-barrel spending, the use of earmarks and logrolling,” said W. S. “Spider” Webb, Jr., CEO and Founder of Single Subject Amendment. “Too often, important ‘must-pass’ legislation is overloaded with completely unrelated provisions, to reward loyalty and usually for the benefit of a few at the unnecessary expense of the rest. The most egregious use of riders occurs when sponsors of legislation collect enough votes through riders to pass legislation, no part of which could otherwise pass on its own merits. This amendment will prevent public surprise and increase the institutional accountability of Congress and its members.”

There are only two ways to propose an amendment to the U. S. Constitution: by Congress or by an Article V Convention for proposing amendments, which can only be convened if 34 state legislatures

request it. Single Subject Amendment is pursuing both methods, and the Florida Legislature is on record as the first to do so.

“As a former lobbyist, I have had many discussions over the years with members of Congress regarding a single-subject requirement, but the idea has never advanced beyond the discussion stage,” said Webb. “I know from my lobbying experience that little happens unless someone makes it happen, and it is my hope that our Super PAC, Single Subject Amendment, can help move this effort forward. We commend Congressman Tom Marino for taking the initiative on this historic effort to provide a simple, non-partisan solution to improve the way Congress conducts its business.”

For more information on Single Subject Amendment, the group’s mission and how to get involved, please visit www.SingleSubjectAmendment.com.

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About Single Subject Amendment

Single Subject Amendment is a nonprofit 527 organization and, more specifically, a Super PAC that registered with the Federal Election Commission on March 1, 2013. Super PACs, officially known as “independent-expenditure only committees,” may not make contributions to candidate campaigns or parties, but may engage in unlimited political spending independently of the campaigns. Unlike traditional PACs, they can raise funds from individuals, corporations, unions and other groups, without any legal limit on donation size.