

**HAMLIN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC LAW AND POLICY, PRESENTS:
2012 FALL SYMPOSIUM -
CALL FOR PAPER AND SPEAKING ABSTRACTS**

The Journal of Public Law and Policy at Hamline University School of Law in Saint Paul, Minnesota, will host a symposium on **October 26, 2012** tentatively entitled- *Minority Rights and Majority Rule: The Arguments and Policies Behind the Proposed 2012 Minnesota Constitutional Amendments and the Danger or Myth of the Tyrannical Majority*. This symposium will gather scholars, policy makers, and government officials to discuss these amendments within the scope of balancing democracy and equality, and the proper role of majority rule referendums. The central issues to be addressed at the symposium include the impact of placing minority rights up for majority vote, the legality and consequences of such Constitutional amendments, and whether a more appropriate venue to address these issues exists.

Accordingly, the symposium seeks to address topics including, but not limited to, issues surrounding majority rule referendums, history of Minnesota Constitutional Amendments, constitutionally defining marriage, voter ID requirements, amendment campaigns, public awareness, and creative ways to deal with these issues in the future. Suggested subtopics are welcome and encouraged!

Welcome topics include:

- The Politics Behind Minnesota's Proposed 2012 Amendments
- Amendment Campaign Strategy
- The Role of Funding in State Amendment Campaigns- Post *Citizens United*
- The Effect of Multiple Proposed Amendments on Public Awareness
- The Role of Religion in Amendment Battles
- Voter ID, A Equal Protection Issue
- Corporations and the Marriage Amendment
- Should these Issues be Decided by the Public- Abrogation of Legislative Duty?
- State's Interest in Marriage

This list is non-exhaustive, and we encourage speakers to develop their own topics. We hope that this conversation will provide a new frame of reference and understanding from which to address these issues and the larger conflict between democracy and equality.

We invite individuals to submit abstracts of their presentation topic for an opportunity to present at the symposium. Any papers related with the presentation may be published in the Fall 2013 edition of *The Journal of Public Law and Policy*. In what has become a core component of the Hamline *Journal of Public Law and Policy* tradition, the symposium and its subsequent issue will be interdisciplinary and will be of use to not only to legal scholars, but also to practicing attorneys, law students, policymakers and other professionals. The symposium is intended to be intellectually engaging as well as to serve as a source of inspiration for future scholarly and practical endeavors.

Please send an abstract of up to 250 words in which you outline your topic and frame your analysis. We welcome and encourage submissions from across all disciplines. Interest in publication is not a pre-requisite for speaking; we encourage all speakers to submit an article for consideration, but it is not required. The abstract should include your name, affiliation, references and email contact and be accompanied by current curriculum vitae or resume.

Abstracts should be submitted to **Jake Barnes, Symposium Editor**, via e-mail at publiclaw@gw.hamline.edu (please use the subject line 2012 Fall Symposium Abstract Submission) or U.S. mail at the address below by September 7, 2012.

The Journal of Public Law and Policy
Hamline University School of Law
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We hope you consider participating in this important and timely conversation.

Thank you for your consideration.