

The John Birch Society Website Review

Website reviewed: [JBS.org](https://www.jbs.org)

Organization: The John Birch Society

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Researched by PatriotPenny76

1. Overall Position

The John Birch Society is a national constitutional education-and-action organization founded in 1958. It describes itself as a nonpartisan civics and education organization whose purpose is to safeguard the Constitution, preserve liberty, and encourage citizen participation. Its guiding theme is "less government, more responsibility, and — with God's help — a better world."

[JBS: Who We Are](#) and [JBS Frequently Asked Questions](#)

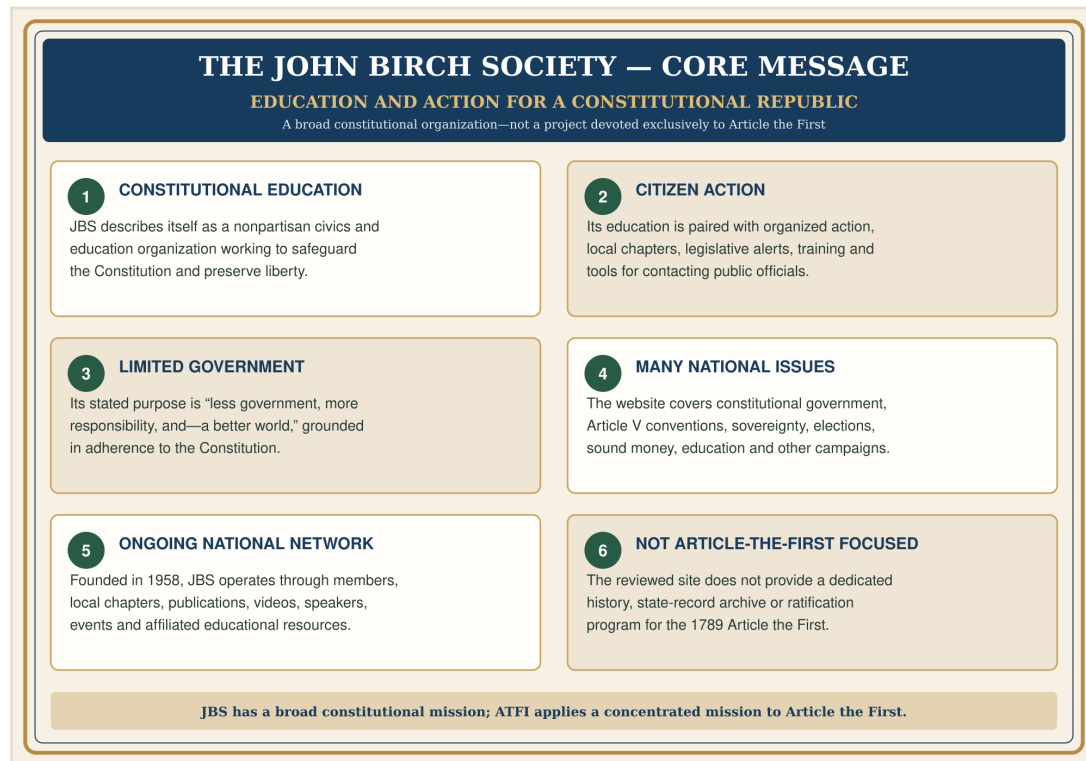
JBS addresses a wide range of constitutional and public-policy subjects, including:

- Limited constitutional government
- Federalism and state sovereignty
- Article V constitutional conventions
- Election integrity
- Sound money and the Federal Reserve
- National sovereignty
- Education
- Immigration
- International agreements and organizations
- Citizen oversight of elected officials

Its work combines educational material with organized action through local chapters, speakers, videos, publications, legislative alerts, campaigns, and downloadable resources.

Article the First is not presented as a central JBS project. The reviewed website does not contain a dedicated Article the First research archive, educational series, or ratification campaign.

2. Core-Message Chart



3. What Aligns with ATFI

JBS and ATFI share several foundational principles:

- Both support the restoration and preservation of the constitutional republic.
- Both believe citizen education should precede effective civic action.
- Both teach that constitutional responsibility ultimately belongs to the people.
- Both encourage citizens to communicate with elected officials.

- Both recognize the states as important participants in constitutional government.
- Both provide educational resources intended for the general public.
- Both connect constitutional knowledge with organized action.
- Both emphasize that government should remain accountable to the people.

This is meaningful alignment. JBS possesses an established national network and considerable experience in constitutional education and citizen engagement.

The difference is not one of general constitutional purpose. It is the breadth and immediate objective of each organization.

4. The Central Difference

JBS uses what may be described as a broad or “shotgun” approach: it educates and acts upon numerous constitutional and public-policy issues simultaneously.

ATFI uses a concentrated or “laser-beam” approach: Article the First is its foundation, goal, and mission.

The John Birch Society	Article the First Initiative
Addresses many constitutional and public-policy issues	Concentrates exclusively on Article the First

Has a longstanding national membership structure	Is an independent, focused initiative
Provides general constitutional education	Provides specialized Article the First education
Organizes campaigns on numerous subjects	Follows one educational and ratification pathway
Uses chapters, coordinators, members, and affiliates	Uses collaborators, researchers, classes, and public resources
Opposes calling a new Article V convention	Seeks completion of an amendment already proposed by Congress in 1789
Does not presently offer an Article the First ratification program	Educates first and then pursues ratification by 27 additional states

ATFI is not attempting to replace or compete with JBS. It fills a concentrated educational and documentary role that JBS's broader mission does not presently fill.

5. Verification Findings

JBS is a broad constitutional organization

The website describes JBS as a civics, education, and action organization. Its current projects cover many subjects rather than one constitutional provision. [JBS homepage](#) and [JBS issues](#)

Education is paired with action

JBS does more than publish static information. It offers local chapters, member training, speakers, legislative alerts, videos, publications, campaigns, and materials for contacting legislators.

This strongly aligns with ATFI's principle that education should lead to informed civic participation.

Its Bill of Rights material begins with the ten ratified amendments

The JBS Constitution page reproduces the Bill of Rights preamble, but its amendment list begins with what became the ratified First Amendment concerning religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition. It does not place the original Article the First or original Article the Second before those ten amendments. [JBS Constitution](#)

This reflects the conventional presentation of the Bill of Rights as the ten amendments ratified in 1791. It does not teach readers that Congress originally proposed twelve articles in 1789.

No dedicated Article the First study was located

The reviewed JBS website does not appear to provide focused material on:

- The original twelve proposed articles
- Article the First's apportionment formula
- The congressional changes from "less" to "more"
- The mathematical paradox
- Original state ratification documents
- Connecticut's record

- The eleven documented ratifications
- Article the First's present pending status
- A pathway for ratification by 27 additional states

This should be described as an absence of focus, not a condemnation. JBS never claims that Article the First is its central subject.

JBS discusses Article V in a different context

JBS extensively discusses Article V while opposing the calling of a new constitutional convention. It argues that the Constitution should be obeyed rather than opened to a new convention. [JBS Constitutional Convention project](#)

ATFI's approach does not call for a convention. Article the First was already proposed by the necessary two-thirds vote of Congress in 1789. ATFI seeks additional state ratifications of that existing proposal.

That distinction is especially important: opposition to a new Article V convention does not conflict with state consideration of an amendment already proposed by Congress.

JBS is currently active

JBS remains active through campaigns, publications, conferences, videos, legislative alerts, educational programs, and local participation. Its broad national network could make its members a receptive audience for Article the First education, even though Article the First is not currently one of its featured projects.

6. ATFI Comparison Chart

BROAD CONSTITUTIONAL MISSION • CONCENTRATED ATFI MISSION THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY • ARTICLE THE FIRST INITIATIVE™ A neutral comparison of purpose, education, research and action		
COMPARISON POINT	THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY JBS.org	ARTICLE THE FIRST INITIATIVE™ ArticleTheFirstInitiative.com
Primary focus	✓ Constitutional education and action across many public-policy subjects	✓ Article the First is the exclusive subject and reason for the initiative's existence
Constitutional scope	• Broad: limited government, sovereignty, elections, money, education and more	✓ Narrow: the 1789 representation article, its history, meaning and completion
Article the First	• No dedicated Article-the-First project was found on the reviewed website	✓ Central focus of research, teaching, publication and public engagement
Historical records	• Publishes constitutional materials, but no state-by-state ATF archive was found	✓ Original congressional documents and state ratification records are assembled
Education	✓ Articles, videos, courses, publications, speakers and downloadable materials	✓ Public website, live classes, charts, books, presentations and documentary research
Organized action	✓ Chapters, member training, campaigns and legislative action alerts on many issues	✓ Education first, followed by focused citizen and state-legislative engagement
State ratification	• Discusses Article V, chiefly while opposing a new constitutional convention	✓ Seeks ratification by 27 additional states without relying on Connecticut
Organization	• National membership organization founded in 1958, with chapters and affiliates	✓ Independent initiative with a concentrated research, education and ratification purpose
Current activity	✓ Actively maintained with current campaigns, events, videos and publications	✓ Actively building education, research, classes and the ratification pathway
The essential distinction JBS teaches and acts across a wide field of constitutional and public-policy concerns. ATFI concentrates its research, education and action on completing Article the First. Shared constitutional concern • Different breadth • Different immediate objective		

7. Final Neutral Classification

The John Birch Society is an active national constitutional education-and-action organization addressing a broad range of constitutional and public-policy concerns. Its principles of constitutional education, citizen responsibility, state participation, and informed action align substantially with ATFI.

However, JBS.org does not presently provide a dedicated history, documentary archive, educational program, or state-ratification pathway for Article the First. ATFI's distinguishing contribution is its exclusive

concentration on completing this unfinished constitutional article.