



**Ohio Senate
District 17**

**Bob Peterson
President Pro Tempore**

1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-8156

Committees:

Rules and Reference, Vice Chair
Agriculture
Finance General Government and Agency
Review Subcommittee
Government Oversight and Reform
Local Government, Public Safety, and
Veteran's Affairs
Ways and Means

**SCR 23, House Federalism and Interstate Relations Committee
November 28, 2018**

Chairman Roegner, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak to Senate Concurrent Resolution 23, a Resolution that seeks to honor one of the founding principles of our nation: Federalism. The American colonists learned first-hand of the potentially devastating impact of a distant, over-reaching government that had little to no interest in the lives of those they sought to regulate. The faraway British government did not understand or care about the impact their sweeping and controlling style of governance had on their colonists over 3,000 miles away. The mechanism our founders chose for their own government to prevent a recurrence of this governmental over-reach was federalism: allowing states the authority to govern their own citizens in the ways they saw fit. They imaged a limited federal government and a thriving, robust state government.

It is easy to look around at the style of governance we see now in our country and see that the vision of our founding fathers has faded. The federal government asserts itself in nearly every aspect of our lives: the education of our children, our individual health care decisions, and other regulatory impacts on our daily lives. This resolution seeks to push back against the encroaching federal government and reassert the prominence of state governments.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on SCR 23; I and President Obhof would be happy to answer any questions you have at this time.